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# Charles the Great.

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THE  
ENGLISH CHARLEMAGNE ROMANCES.

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PART III.

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The Lyl of the Noble and Crysten Prynce,

Charles the Grete,

TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH BY WILLIAM CAXTON  
AND PRINTED BY HIM 1485.

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EDITED NOW FOR THE FIRST TIME, FROM THE UNIQUE COPY  
IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM,

with Introduction, Notes, and Glossary,

BY

SIDNEY J. H. HERRTAGE, B.A.,

EDITOR OF "GESTA ROMANORUM," "SIR FERUMBRAS," ETC.

LONDON:

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Extra Series,

XXXVII.

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BUNGAY: CLAY AND TAYLOR, THE CHAUCER PRESS.

## INTRODUCTION.

THE present volume, completing Part III. of the English Charlemagne Romance series, requires but little introduction. I have already referred to it in my edition of *Sir Ferumbras*, Introd. pp. viii, ix. It contains the whole life of Charlemagne, with a brief sketch of the early kings of France, and includes all the incidents narrated in *Sir Ferumbras*, *The Sowdone of Babyloyn*e, *Roland and Vernagu*, and the *Song of Roland*.

Caxton's "Lyf of the Noble and Crysten Prynce, Charles the Grete" survives only in the unique copy preserved in the British Museum (Press Mark c. 10, b. 9). It is a folio volume, containing 96 leaves, the signatures running from A ij to M viij, and is perfect, but without title-page. The colophon tells us that the "werke was fynysshed in the reducyng of hit in to Englysshe the xvij day of Juyn, the second yere of kyng Rychard the thyrd, and the yere of our lord MCCCCLXXXV, and enprynted the fyrst day of decembre the same of our lord, & the fyrst yere of kyng Harry the seuenth."

The type is that classed by Mr. Blades as 4\*. The pages have two columns, each containing 39 lines, and each line measuring 2½ inches. There are neither folios nor catchwords. The initial wood-cut letters are 3 lines deep.

In 1743 the volume was sold by R. Harley to Osborne the bookseller, the price not mentioned. In 1773 it became the property of J. Ratcliffe at a cost of £13, and in 1776 it was sold by him to George III for £4. 4. 0.

As Caxton himself tells us, the work here reprinted is a translation of the French prose romance of *Fierabras*, itself a compilation

partly from the *Speculum Historiale* of Vincent de Beauvais, and partly from the old French romance of Fierabras. The exploits of Charlemagne were related in numerous histories and romances, both in French and Latin, in prose and in verse, as early as the 12th and 13th centuries. From the envoy of the anonymous author of the original French version we learn how Henry Bolomyer, a canon of Lausanne, induced him to gather together into one connected narrative these disjointed fragments. A comparison of his work with that of Vincent of Beauvais shows clearly that his researches were by no means confined to the *Speculum Historiale*. I have already given a short account of the original French work.<sup>1</sup> One version in the Grenville Library, 10531, is doubly unique, being not only the only copy of that particular version known to be in existence, but also the only production of the press of Symon du Jardin, at Geneva, which has come down to us. Brunet had heard of it, but doubted its existence (*Suppl.* II. p. 231). It is undated and without signatures, pagination, or illustrations.

A second version of the original French is also preserved in the same library, No. 10532. It also is a folio volume of 65 leaves, signatures running from A j to L v. On L v b is a woodcut similar to that at the end of the copy already described. This also is unique, and has the following colophon: "Cy finist Fierabras imprime a lyon lan de grace mil qualtre cens quatre vingtz et seize. Le xx iour de nouembre." There are numerous woodcuts throughout the work, evidently copied from the same source as those in the Royal *Fierabras* described below, but much coarser and plainer. They are also frequently reversed, and, as in the royal copy, the same woodcut is at times made to serve for two or more incidents of a similar character.

In the library of the late Mr. Huth is a version, undated, in folio, black letter, with woodcuts, and the colophon: "Cy finist Fierabras. Imprime a lyon par maistre Guillaume le roy. Le cinquesme Jour du moys de Juilliet. Deo gracias." It contains 108 leaves, and is the copy described by Brunet. It appears to have belonged originally

<sup>1</sup> Introd. to *Sir Ferumbras*, pp. vi, vii.

to the library of the Academy at Lyons. In the same library is a version in German containing 53 leaves, of which another copy is in the British Museum.<sup>1</sup>

The copy of the French *Fierabras* which I have used for comparison with the English translation, is that preserved in the Royal Library (Press mark, C. 6, b. 12). It is a folio volume of 115 leaves, without title-page. Woodcuts are freely introduced. On the back of sign. A i. is a large one representing Fierabras on horseback, and another on O 5 representing Charlemagne on his throne, and surrounded by his douzeperes. The preface begins on A ij, the index on A ij b, and the text on A vj. The colophon runs: "Cy finist Fierabras. Imprime a genesue Par maistre Loys Garbin bourgeois de la dicte cite. Lan mil cccc. lxxxiiij. et Le xiiij iour de moys de Mais. Deo gracias. Amen." The woodcuts are in many cases most comical: perhaps the most ludicrous are those which are intended to represent Floripas killing Britamont, and Richard swimming the torrent of Flagot. In one in which the sacred relics are shown, only three nails appear, and in two others the Saracens are represented as bombarding the tower of Aigremont with cannons.

In a few instances the same cut is employed to represent two incidents of a similar character. Thus that representing Oliver before Balan is also used for Guy before the Sultan.

In his translation, Caxton has followed his original so closely and even slavishly, that at times it is difficult, if not impossible, to understand his meaning without a reference to the language of the original. Frequently he has used the very words of the French author, and still more frequently he has merely given them an English dress. Caxton probably is responsible for the introduction of more French words into our language than any other writer.

In his epilogue Caxton tells us that he undertook the rendering into English of this Lyf of Charles the Grete at the instigation of "a good and synguler frend, Maister wylliam daubeny, one of the tresirers of the Iewellys of the noble and moost crysten kyng, our naturel and souerayn lord late of noble memorye kyng Edward the fourth." I have endeavoured to identify this Sir William Daubeny,

<sup>1</sup> See *Sir Ferumbras*, Introd. p. vii.



and to ascertain the nature of the duties pertaining to his office as keeper of the jewels. As to the latter—

The copy of the *Liber Niger Domus Regis Anglie*, believed to be that of Edward IV. in the Harleian MS 642, has the following section on leaf 49, &c. on the Keeper of the Jewels, his clerk, yoman, groom, chariot, &c.

### Office of Jewelhouse

hath an Architector callid Clarke of the Kinges or keeper of Joyalx, or Theasaurer of the Chambre: this officer taketh bui Indenture betwixt him and the Kinge, all that he findes in his office of gold, siluer, pretious stones, and the markes of euey thinge. Alsoe he receaueth the yearely guiftes by Record of the Chamberlaine. Item he receaueth by Indenture of the Thesaurer of England, And by ouersight of the Chamberlaine sitting in the Kingis Chambre or in the hall with a person of like seruice, And for his Chambre at night dimidium cheate loafe, one quart wyne, one gallon of ale; And for winter Liurey, one perche de wax, one candle wax, two candels paris, one dimidium tallwood, and present in Court vij<sup>d</sup>. ob. [*leaf 49 back*]. In Checkerrolle and cloathing with howsold for winter and sommer, or of the Countinghouse xl.<sup>s</sup>.: his Liurey is as Knightes, and if he be sicke, he taketh in eating daies like the Squires for the bodie when they bin lett blood or sicke, &c. Also in this offise is a clarke vnder him in the hall eatinge, taking for his liurey at night, dimidium gallon ale, one candle paris, dimidium tallwood, shide and cloathing by the Countinghouse, or yerely twentie shillinges. And if he be sike, he taketh for all day one loafe of bread, one messe of gret meate, dimidium gallon ale. And for this office a yoman eating in the hall with yomen of Chambre, taking for his wages in the Countinghouse, if he be present, allowed by the Checkerrolle, threepence; And cloathing with the housold winter and summer for chances and all other part, or eighteene shillinges, besides his reward of the Jewelhouse for sure and diligent keeping of the Kinges Joalxe yerely &c. And if he be sicke, he taketh such Liurey as doth the Clerke. Also in this office a groome eating dayly in the office, taking for his liurey one loafe, one messe of grete meate, dimidium gallon ale; And he setteth in the Liuries [*leaf 50*]. For this office in season, one candle wax, two candels paris, one tallwood dimidium, And Rushes and litter for this office all the yeare of the Sergeant Vsher of hall and Chambre. Also this groome fetting nightly for this office one gallon of ale: he helpeth to trusse and beare to the Charriott, and awaiteth thervpon the safeguard; and the yoman also to attend vpon this carriage. And this office hath also lodging in the Countrie towne for all these horses and seruantes

suffisauntly by the herbergier. And the chiefe of this office to haue into this Court two waiters, and the Clerke one honest seruant. The remenant goo to there lodgeing in the Country. And the yoman and groome haue one seruant. And for this office is assigned a Charriott with seauen horses and all there apparell, horse-meate, shooeing, and the yomen and groomis wagis therfore, foundyn of the charge of Thesaurer of housold to carrie the stuff of the Kinges in this office, and none other mans, by the ouersight of the Contrroller, betwixt the Thesaurer of housold, and this officer, be many interchaunges of siluer vessell, hoole and brooke, receaued or deliuered by officers by Indentures &c. As it will appeare in [leaf 50, back] The Accompt of housold. And as for othir thinges touching this office, behold in the title *De Oblationibus*<sup>1</sup> *Regis* capitulid before. all thinges of this office inward or outward, cometh and goeth by the knowledge of the Kinge, and by the Chamberlaines Record. Also if any Knight or Squire presume to weare the Kinges liuerey, but if he come ther by authoritie, or ellys by record in this office./

The maister  
two seruants,  
the Clerke  
one seruant.

A Charriot  
with seauen  
horses.

Thanks to the kindness of Mr. Selby of H.M. Record Office and Mr. Furnivall, I have been enabled to identify Sir W. Daubeney, and to give some interesting particulars relating to him. We first meet with his name in 1480-1, when he was appointed Searcher in the Port of London.<sup>2</sup> The substance of the Patent Roll is as follows :

<sup>1</sup> Vide de hoc antea: folio. 15. b. [On Gifts by the King in charity, &c.]

<sup>2</sup> The following note is derived from a bundle of Searchers' Accounts for the period:—

[*Ancient Miscellanea*. (Exch. Q. R.) Searchers' Accounts. Bundle 692. J. P. R. 2110.]

1—6 } London.—Account by John Lyn who was appointed by  
Hen. VII } letters patent dated 22 Sept. 1 Hen. VII. Searcher in the  
port of London, to wit, from 22 Sept. / to Mich. 6 Hen.  
VII., William Dawbeney late Searcher. / membrane.

This Account extending over five years and 8 days gives the sum received as *nil*.

This record states the duties to be—"ad explorandum per se in propria persona sua, et non per substitutum, omnes naves et batellas extra regnum Anglie transeuntis, et ad idem regnum venientes in portibus et locis predictis [*i. e.* in portu Civitatis Londonie], et ad scrutinium faciendum de omnibus navibus et batellis hujusmodi, et de personis de quibus sinistra suspicio haberi poterit, quod lane, pelles lanute, coria, panni, aut mercimonia costumabilia non cokettata nec costumata in eisdem navibus, aut aurum vel argentum in pecunia numerata, aut masa vel plata seu focalia carcata seu posita fuerunt; vel si aliquae persone bullas litteras instrumenta vel processus vel aliqua alia Regi vel suditis Regis prejudicialia infra vel extra regnum Regis predictum, detuleri contra proclamaciones et inhibuciones ex parte Regis inde factas, Habendum et occupandum officium predictum quamdiu Regi placuerit, una cum medietate forisfacture predictae."

9 Novr, 20 Edw. IV, 1480. Memb. 21. Appointment of Wm. Daubeney as Searcher in the Port of London & other places adjoining the same, with the usual fees & emoluments, & also the half of all forfeit, was seized to the King's use. His substitute or substitutes may act for him.

About the same time in a "Roll of Accounts, Michaelmas, 20 Edw. IV," there is an entry that John Barker of London, Goldsmith, had received 100*l* from *William Daubeney* in part payment of 80 butts of malmsey purchased by him for the use of the King's army.<sup>1</sup>

In 1483-4 he was re-appointed to the office of Searcher of the Port to Richard III. In the Patent Roll his previous appointment to the same office under Edward V. is referred to, and he is further described as Clerk of the Jewels. In the Calr. of the Patent Rolls, Ric. III. Appx. to 9th Report of Deputy Keeper of Records, p. 34, the following particulars relating to Sir W. Daubeney are given :

1 Ric. III., p. 2, 1483-4. Membrane 20 (4) 16 Dec. Appointment of *William Daubeney*, clerk of the jewels, as searcher in the port of London, with a grant of half of all the forfeitures, in as full a manner as William Merston, esq. enjoyed the same : which office the said *William Daubeney* fills by virtue of a patent of Edward V. the bastard [entry 39], *ib.* p. 39, Membrance 7 (19).

11 Mar. Release to *William Daubeney* (or Dabeney), searcher in the port of London, of all arrears of accounts, &c. to 6 March last [entry 133].

*ib.* p. 42, Membrane 2 (24).

8 April. Appointment of John Wode, knt, Treasurer of England, Robert Brakenbury, Constable of the Tower of London, Master William Lacy, Master *William Dawbney*, and Master *Robert Rydon*, as Commissaries General in the office of the Admiralty in England. . .

*ib.* p. 67, Memb. 17 (9). 1 Ric. III, p. 4, 1483-4.

24 April. Grant to William Dawbney, clerk of the jewels to Edward IV., of an annuity of 10*l*. out of a farm in Watford (Northampton), (2) by the hands of Eustace of Burneby and Matill his wife, to hold the same until the gift, for life, of an office of 20*l* yearly value ; further grant in survivorship to the

<sup>1</sup> Exchequer Issue Roll, Hen. III. to Edw. VI, ed. F. Devon, Appendix, p. 500.



said *William Dawbeney* and Joan his wife of an annuity of 20 marks, the former patents of 22 June, 21 Edw. IV. (p. 2, m. 12), and 1 May,<sup>1</sup> 21 Edw. IV. (p. 1, m. 6), granting to them the said annuities, having been surrendered.

An order under the Privy Seal of Henry VII. in 1485 to the Treasurer and Chamberlaine of his Exchequer orders them to allow to his "beloved cousin John, arl of Oxenford," the sums of 100 marks and 100£ out of his purchase-money of 800 marks for the manors of the late Wm. Alyngton during his son's minority, and the marriage of this son: This, because the Earl had paid 100 marks to Rich. Gardynere, alderman of London, "for so moche money by the said Richard Gardynere late lent unto Richard, duc of Gloucester, late, in dede and not of righte, kind of England, upon pledge of a salt of gold with a cover. . . the which salt . . . was delivered unto the said Richard Gardynere by one, *William Daubeney, knight, keeper of the juelx with the foresaid pretensed king* . . . and also the summe of c. ti. parcell of xxiiij °. ti by the said late pretensed king borrowed of the maire and aldermen of our said citie of London . . . and for suertie and contentaciom of the said xxiiij °. ti. the said late pretensed king laide in plege to the said maire and aldermen a coronalle gold garnished with many other grete and riche juelx, as by a bille endented betwix the said maire and aldremen, on that one partie, and the foresaid William Daubeney, then keper of juelx of the said pretensed king on that othre partie thero made, more plainly doth appere.<sup>2</sup>

In Sept. 1484 we find the following orders: "Parcelles of clothing [&c.] to be delivered by the said bishop to the said erle [of Desmond]. . . . Item, a nother lettre direct to Mr. *William Dawbeney*, clerk of the kinges juelles, to delivere unto the said bisshop for the said erle of Dissemound, a coler of gold of xx<sup>ti</sup> oz., xxx<sup>ti</sup> ti.—Letters and Papers t. Rich. III. & Hen. VI, ed. Gairdner, Rolls Series, 1861, p. 713.

There is no William Daubeney's will of Caxton's time at the Probate Office, but the following items culled from various sources appear to refer to Caxton's friend, and his family:

Dame Joan Dawbeney, wife of Sir Wm. Dawbeney, was buried at the Augustine Friars Church, Broadstreet Ward, London, [no date given].<sup>3</sup> John, son and heir of Sir Giles Dawbeney, is buried in the same church.

<sup>1</sup> 1 March: in the patent roll of 21 Edw. IV.

<sup>2</sup> *Memorials Illustrative of the Reign of Henry VII*, p. 214. (Rolls Series.)

<sup>3</sup> Stowe's *Survey of London*, 1633, p. 186, col. 2.

Sir Wm. Stanley, William Dawbeney late of London, gentleman, & others were attainted of treason for rebelling against Henry VII. Act of Attainder in the *Rolls of Parliament*, vol. 6, p. 503.

Mr. Walter Rye says that this may be the same man as Sir William, because, in an official document like the above, the title of Knight conferred by the usurper, Rich. III, would probably not be acknowledged. (But compare the order under the Privy Seal in 1485, on the preceding page.)

Mr. Rye also thinks our Wm. D. was connected with the Norfolk Dawbeney. In Blomfield's *Norfolk*, Wm. Dawbeney, of North Burlingham, after 1428 bought a property which his grandson Thomas sold in 1528.

The Series of English Charlemagne Romances will be completed by the issue next year of the romances of *Roland and Vernagu* and *Sir Otuel*, from the Auchinleck MS., and the curious poem of *Rauf Coilzear* from the unique printed copy.

SIDNEY J. HERRTAGE.

*Mill Hill, N.W., October 1881.*

paynmys, and that was by the ayde of fyerabras, which  
for loue of Charles dyd fyght, and made grete dys-  
comfyture of the sarasyns. for there he put to deth

4 Tempeste, and the olde Rubyon, and moo than fyfty  
other of these mastyns myscreauntes. & he there bare  
hym in suche wyse that there was not one persone that  
durst come tofore hym to resyste hym.

Fierabras slays  
more than 50  
Saracens.

8 ¶ How the peres of Fraunce whyche were in  
the toure came oute whan they sawe the  
hoost, & how thadmyral was taken &  
holden prysonner : capitulo xiiij

12 **T**He paynmys & frensshe men, alwaye perseuer-  
yng in mortal bataylle, coude not make thende,  
eche one of other, For the multytude of the pay-  
nmys was so grete that they myzt not be dyscomfyted.

16 Whan <sup>1</sup>the barons that were in the tour sawe the fayt,  
& that they that kepte the toure were goon to the  
socours and crye of thadmyral, they sprange out, & eche  
took an hors of them þat were dede, which ranne at al

The French  
knights, seeing  
the battle, sally  
out, and seizing  
each a stray  
horse, (5533)

20 aduenture ; and eche also took his swerde in his hond,  
& sodeynly cam vpon the sarasyns for to passe thurgh  
them to the frensshe hoost, & made so grete bruyt that  
the moost hardyest of the paynmys gaf them waye, &

charge the Sara-  
cens, and force  
their way through  
them, (5542)

24 lete them passe, and in especyal rolland, for where he  
smote with durandal, cam neuer after tofore hym. & at  
thys departyng<sup>1</sup> was derly recomanded guy of bourgoyne  
of florypes, for she had fere of hym. Neuertheles, whan  
28 they were assembled wyth the other, wythoute letyng  
them to be knowen, went vpon the sarasyns, & helde  
them soo short that anone they slewe them in suche wyse  
þat the other put them to flyght : for there was neuer

scatterng them  
like larks before  
the hawk, (5550)

32 larke fledde more ferfully tofore þ<sup>e</sup> sperhawke than the  
sarasyns fledde tofore rolland. Thadmyral knewe wel

<sup>1</sup> k ij, col. 2.

hys destructyon by the comyng<sup>i</sup> of the peres that were  
in þ<sup>e</sup> toure, & cryed<sup>t</sup> wyth an h[y]e voys: "mahon, my  
god, to whome I haue gyuen my self, and<sup>t</sup> haue doon to  
so moche honour, thou hast forgotten<sup>1</sup> me! Remembre 4  
me now! ¶ For and euer I may gete the, I shal bete the  
bothe flankes,<sup>2</sup> hede & vysage, and<sup>t</sup> also put out thyn eyen,  
fals recreaunt god<sup>t</sup> that thou art." he thus sayeng<sup>i</sup>, he  
was so pursyewed<sup>t</sup> and smyton that he fyl down vnder 8  
his hors, and was taken, and<sup>t</sup> not slayn, at the request of  
hys sone fyerabras, to thende that he shold be aduysed<sup>t</sup>  
to byleue in Ihesu cryst, & in the holy Trynyte, &  
bycome crysten, & al his contreye. Thenne the bataylle 12  
took an ende; and<sup>t</sup> he that wold<sup>t</sup> not be conuerted<sup>t</sup> was  
incontynent put to deth. Somme fledde, and somme  
were taken. Thenne after thys the Frensshe men  
wente & vnarmed them, & Charles sawe there hys 16  
barons whom he desyred so moche to see, & in especial  
his neuew rolland, & Olyuer, whom he loued so moche,  
& were so gretly valyaunt. It can not be sayd<sup>t</sup> ne  
expressed<sup>t</sup> the Ioye that was emonge them; & the con- 20  
solacyon & reioycyng<sup>i</sup> of kyng<sup>i</sup> charles was Inestymable.  
Thenne they recounted alle thynges what were happend<sup>t</sup>  
to them, & of theyr daungers and Ieopardyes whiche  
they had escaped<sup>t</sup>, & sorowes & lamentacions that they 24  
had endured<sup>t</sup>, wherfore Charles and<sup>t</sup> many other wept for  
pyte. And thys endured<sup>t</sup> many dayes, there where as  
the hurt men & seek were heeled<sup>t</sup>, & they that were  
hole passed theyr tyme in deduyte, tryumphe, and<sup>t</sup> 28  
Ioye.

hys destructyon by the comyng<sup>i</sup> of the peres that were  
in þ<sup>e</sup> toure, & cryed<sup>t</sup> wyth an h[y]e voys: "mahon, my  
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me now! ¶ For and euer I may gete the, I shal bete the  
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his neuew rolland, & Olyuer, whom he loued so moche,  
& were so gretly valyaunt. It can not be sayd<sup>t</sup> ne  
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the hurt men & seek were heeled<sup>t</sup>, & they that were  
hole passed theyr tyme in deduyte, tryumphe, and<sup>t</sup> 28  
Ioye.

<sup>3</sup>¶ How ballant, thadmyrall, for ony admony-  
cyon that was shewed<sup>t</sup> to hym, wold not  
be baptysed, and how after, guy of bour- 32  
goyn espoused florypes, & was crowned

<sup>1</sup> orig. forygotten.<sup>2</sup> k ij, back.<sup>3</sup> k ij, back, col. 2.



kyng, and she quene of that contreye :  
capitulo XV

- 4 **W**Han charles had al appeased, he took ballant Charles sends for Balan, (5719)  
the admyral tofore hys noblesse, & sayd to  
hym in this maner : “ ballant, al creatures  
resonable owen to gyue synguler honour & pertyculer  
loue to hym that hath gyuen to them beyng, knowleche,  
8 & lyf, & it is wel requesyte & nedeful that he haue  
honour and reuerence that hath made heuen and erthe,  
& al that therein enhabyteth. Wherfore by good ryght  
he is superyour and abouen al ; And a grete abusyon and, declaring the evil and folly of idolatry,  
12 is comprysed in hym which gyueth fayth and hope  
in that whyche he hath made wyth hys hondes, & of  
mater dede, Insensyble, and that hath neyther reson  
ne soule, as thy goddes dyabolyke, whyche may not  
16 ne can gyue consolacyon to theyr subgettes. Wher-  
fore I warne the for the helthe of thy soule, and for the  
preseruynge of thy body & of thy goodes, that thou  
take away alle these Iniquytees and peruerse affectyons,  
20 & byleue in the holy Trynyte, fader, sone, <sup>1</sup>and holy  
ghoost, one onely god almyghty ; and byleue that the  
sone of god, for to repayre thoffence of our formest fader  
adam, descended in to thys world, and took humanyte  
24 in the wombe of the blessed vyrgyn marie, whyche was  
al pure and wythoute spotte. And byleue in the  
artycles of the fayth, and obeye and kepe hys comande-  
mentes, which he hath gyuen to vs for our helth. and  
28 byleue how he was taken of the Iewes, and by enuy  
hanged on the crosse for to redeme vs fro the paynes  
of helle. Byleue hys resurrexyon and ascencyon in hys  
body gloryfied, and the other thynges, as the holy  
32 baptesme whyche he hath establysshed, wyth the other  
sacramentes. & yf thou wylt thus byleue thou shalt  
be saued, & thou shalt neyther lose body ne goodes.” and, declaring the evil and folly of idolatry,  
calls on him to forsake it,  
and to believe in God, (5724)  
and the articles of the Christian faith.  
He recounts Christ's crucifixion, resurrection, and ascension,  
and says that if he will be converted, nothing shall be taken from him. (5722)

Balan swears he  
will never forsake  
Mahon. (5749)

Charles threatens  
him with death.  
(5756)

Fierabras inter-  
cedes for his  
father, who  
agrees to be  
baptised. (5783)

The font is pre-  
pared, (5789)

but Balan spits in  
it, and nearly  
kills the bishop,  
(5809)

who is saved by  
Ogier.

Fierabras again  
intercedes for  
Balan, (5813)

but Floripas urges  
Charles to put  
him to death at  
once. (5819)

Thadmyral answerd that he wold no thyng do so, and  
sware that for deth ne for lyf he wold not leue  
Mahon. Themperour holdyng<sup>r</sup> a naked swerd, sayd to  
hym, that yf he forsoke not Mahon he shold do put 4  
hym to deth. Fyerabras, seyng<sup>r</sup> thys, kneled down to  
herthe, & prayed hys fader to do as the emperour had  
sayd. Thadmyral fered the deth, & sayd that he was  
contente that the fonte shold be blessed. Charles was 8  
glad, and dyd do make redy a fonte wyth <sup>1</sup> fayr water in  
a fayr vessel; and the byssshop wyth other mynystres of  
the chyrche dyd halowe the fonte, and made alle redy.  
& after, whan thadmyral was vncladde, the byssshop 12  
demaunded hym, sayeng<sup>r</sup>: "Syr ballant, forsake ye  
mahon, and crye ye mercy to god of heuen for your  
trespaces? and byleue ye in Ihesu cryst, the sone of  
the vyrgyn marye?" whan thadmyral vnderstode these 16  
wordes, al hys body began to tremble. than, in despyte of  
Ihesus, he spyte in the fonte, and caught the byssshop,  
& wold haue drowned hym in the fonte, and had  
plonged hym therin, ne had not Ogier haue been, 20  
whyche letted hym, & yet notwythstondyng, he gaf a  
grete stroke to thadmyral, that the blood came oute of  
hys mouthe habondantly. Of thys were al abasshed  
that were present; and thenne the kyng sayd to 24  
Fyerabras: "ye be my speycal frende, Ye see that your  
fader wyl neuer be crystened, And also the oultrage that  
he hath doon to the fonte, it can not be excused but  
that he must be dede and dysmembred." 28

¶ Fyerabras requyred hym yet of a lytel pacyence,  
and yf he wold not amende hym, that thenne he shold  
doo hys wyll.

¶ Florypes, the doughter of the Admyrall, seeyng<sup>r</sup> 32  
thys, sayd:

¶ "O Syr Emperour, wherfore <sup>2</sup>delaye ye so moche  
to put thys deuyl to deth? I retche not though

<sup>1</sup> k iij, col. 2.

<sup>2</sup> k iij, back.

he be put to deth, so that I onely may haue guye  
of bourgoyne to myn husbond, whom I haue so moche  
desyred." Fyerabras answerd: "fayr suster, ye haue  
4 grete wronge. For I ensure you, and swere by god  
whiche hath made me, that I wold that I had lost  
two of my membres, on the condycyon that he were a  
good cristen man, & were baptysed and byleued in  
8 Ihesu Cryst. ye wote wel that he is our fader whiche  
hath engendred vs; we ought to honour hym, and to  
loue hys helth. ye are wel obstynat whan ye haue of  
hym noo pyte." And after in wepyng sayd to his  
12 fader: "O moost dyer fader, I praye you to be better  
aduysed, and byleue in hym that hath fourmed you  
to hys ymage, whyche is Ihesus, god souerayn, lyke as  
themperour hath sayd; and leue mahon, which hath  
16 neither wytte ne reason, ne noo thyng is but gold &  
stones, wherof he is composed. yf ye thus do, ye shal  
do to vs grete Ioye, & of your enemyes ye shal make  
frendes."

Fierabras re-  
proves her for her  
unfilial conduct,  
(5823)

and implores his  
father to consent  
to be a Christian.  
(5823)

20 Ballant ansuerd: "fool & glouton that thou art,  
speke nomore to me therof, thou art al oute of reson!  
I shal neuer byleue in hym that deyed V. C. yere agoon,  
& acursed be he that putteth in hys byleue that he is  
24 ariysen fro deth <sup>1</sup>to lyf. by mahon, my god, yf I were  
on my hors back, or I were taken, I shold angre charles,  
that fool." whan fyerabras had al vnderstonden hym,  
he said to charles that he shold do wyth hym hys  
28 playsyr, "For by good ryght he ought to deye." Anon  
themperour demanded who wold slee ballant, the vn-  
mesurable felon. Thenne Ogier was present which  
hated hym in his hert, & forthwyth he smote of hys  
32 heed, & Fyerabras pardonned hym gladly. Thenne  
after this, florypes sayd to Rolland that he shold  
accomplysse his promesses by-twene hyr and guy of  
bourgoyn. rolland ansuerd: "ye say trouth," and

Balan calls him a  
fool, and declares  
he will never do  
so. (5843)

Charles asks who  
will kill the  
Sowdan. (5859)

Ogier volunteers,  
and smites off his  
head. (5865)



Roland reminds  
Guy of his promise  
to marry Floripas.  
(5871)

Guy says he is  
quite ready. (5875)

Floripas is  
stripped to be  
baptised. (5879)

All are struck by  
her exceeding  
beauty,

and especially  
Charles. (5889)

She is baptised,

but her name is  
not changed.  
Guy and Floripas  
are married,

and crowned king  
and queen of  
Spain. (5905)

after sayd to guye: ¶ “Syr, ye remembre wel what  
wordes and loue hath been bytwene you & the  
curtoys Florypes: kepe your trouth and promesse to  
hyr.” Guy ansuerd that he was redy to do al that 4  
themperour wold haue hym to doo. Charles was  
contente. ¶ Thenne anone afore theym alle she was  
despoyled, and vnclad hyr for to be baptysed. She  
beyng there al naked, shewed hyr beaute, whyche was 8  
ryght whyte and wel forme, so playsaunt and amerouse  
for the formosyte of hyr persone, that euery man  
merueylled. ¶ For she had hyr eyen as clere as two  
sterres, a fayre forhede and large, hyr nose ryght wel 12  
standyng in <sup>1</sup>the myddes of the vysage; hyr chekes  
were reed & whyt medled, hyr browes compaced as it  
had been a lytel shadowe to the colour of the vysage;  
hyr heyr shynnyng as golde, & that in soo good an ordre 16  
accumyled that it henge bynethe hyr <sup>2</sup>knees; hyr mouth  
was wel composed with an attemperat roundenes, a  
smal longe necke, and hyr sholdres fayr & wel syttyng,  
& ij pappes tofore, smale, rounde, & somewhat enhaunced 20  
lyke ij rounde apples. ¶ And so wel was she made, and  
so amerouse, that she smote the hertes of many, and  
enflamed theyr entencyon wyth concupyscence, and  
specyally of charles the Emperour, how wel that he was 24  
auncyen & olde; and in the fonte whyche was ordeyned  
for the Admyral hyr fader, she was baptysed. And  
charles & Duc thyery of ardayne were her godfaders,  
wythout chaunchyng hyr name. And anone after, whan 28  
she was honourably cladde, the bysshop wedded them,  
& after, themperour comanded to brynge forth the crowne  
of ballant, and crowned wyth-al guy of bourgoyn and  
Florypes. And the bysshop sacred and blessed them. 32  
And so tho said guy was kyng of that contreye, & gaf  
a partye to Fyerabras, by condycion, that yf Fyerabras  
wold haue it, he shold holde it of guye, and all <sup>3</sup>that

<sup>1</sup> k iij.

<sup>2</sup> orig. kues.

<sup>3</sup> k iij, col. 2.



<sup>1</sup>euer guye shold<sup>t</sup> haue, he shold<sup>t</sup> holde it of charles.

After thys, the feest of the weddyng<sup>t</sup> and<sup>t</sup> espousaylles endured<sup>t</sup> viij dayes. And charles abode there two

The wedding festivities last 8 days. (5913)

4 monethes and<sup>t</sup> two dayes, tyl that the contreye was wel assured<sup>t</sup>.

¶ How Florypes delyuerd the reliques to themperour, and how they were proued'

8 by myracle, & of the retournyng' of Charles, and of the ende of thys book.

[capitulo

xvj]

12 **C**harles dyd suche dylygence in aygremore and<sup>t</sup> in the contreye adiacent, that he that wold<sup>t</sup> not be baptysed was put to deth, and<sup>t</sup> so serched<sup>t</sup> oueral.

And on a sonday after masse he sente for florypes, and sayd<sup>t</sup> to hyr: "fayr doughter, ye knowe how I haue

16 crowned<sup>t</sup> you and<sup>t</sup> maad<sup>t</sup> you quene of thys contree. I haue accomplysshed<sup>t</sup> your desyre as to guye of bourgoyne, your husbond<sup>t</sup>, And<sup>t</sup> more ouer ye be baptysed<sup>t</sup>, and in waye of sauacyon, and ye haue one of the valyauntest

20 body that is from hens in to Affryque. ¶ And<sup>t</sup> he and<sup>t</sup> fyerabras your broder shal haue thys regyon, And<sup>t</sup> I shal leue with hym xx M of my subgetes, to the ende that the paynyns be alwaye in drede; but ye

24 haue not yet shewed<sup>2</sup> to me nothyng<sup>t</sup> of the holy relyques that ye kepe." Florypes answerd<sup>t</sup>: "Syr emperour, they shal be redy whan it pleseth you," and thenne she brougt forth the chest in whyche they were

28 honestly.

¶ Themperour kneled<sup>t</sup> down on bothe hye knees, and enclyned bothe wyth hert & body, and bad the bysshop to opene it, & shewe them, and so he dyd<sup>t</sup>. And fyrst 32 he shewed<sup>t</sup> the preeyous crowne with whyche Ihesu Cryst was crowned<sup>t</sup> wyth, whyche was of pryckyng

Charles reminds Floripas of all he had done for her, (5931)

and calls on her to produce the sacred relics. (5931)

Floripas brings him the coffer containing them, (5936).

which Turpin reverently opens.

<sup>1</sup> orig. ener.

<sup>2</sup> k iiij, back.

The bishop takes out the holy crown of thorns, (5950)

which remains unsupported in the air,

emitting a delightful odour. (5954)

The other relics are proved in the same way.

Charles thanks God for his mercies to him.

Turpin blesses the army with relics, and replaces them in the coffer.

Charles's glove, in which is a small piece of relic,

thornes & of Ionques of the see. and wyth grete deuocyon it was shewed & adoured. And many there wepte & wayled the deth of our lord Ihesu Cryst, and were in grete deuocyon & contemplacyon. The bysshop, 4 which was deuoute & wyse, wold preue it, And lyfte it vp on hye in the ayer, & wythdrewe hys hond, and the crowne abode by itself in the ayer. & thenne the bysshop certefyed to the <sup>1</sup>peple that was present, that 8 it was the crowne of Ihesu cryst, which he had on his hede in the tyme of his passyon. Thenne euery man honoured it deuoutely; & it had soo grete an odour that eueryche meruaylled. and after, the bysshop took 12 the naylles by whyche god had hys handes<sup>2</sup> & feet perced, and preued them as he had proued the crowne tofore, and semblably they abode <sup>3</sup>in the ayer myraculously. And Charles, seyng al this, thanked humbly 16 God in sayeng: ¶ "O lord god eternal, whyche hast gyuen to me grace that I haue surmounted myn enemyes Infydels, and hast put & sette me in the waye, and gyuen conduyte to fynde your relyques whyche I 20 haue so longe desyred, I humbly rendre and gyue to you thankes and praysynges. For now my contrey may wel say that it shal be perpetuel honour to hit to possede and haue thys precious tresour, whan it shal be 24 conteyned therin." The bysshop blessyd alle the people there in makynge the sygne of the crosse with the said relyques, & after he sette them deuoutely ageyn in their places. And the emperour dyd do sette them 28 on a ryche cloth of golde deuoutely. And whan they were theron, the remenaunt that abode of them as smale pyeces, he took them deuoutely and put them in hys gloue; and after, he beyng in purpoos to retorne in to 32 hys contreye, he threwe the gloue to a knyght, but the knyght took none hede & took it not; & whan Charles was a litel withdrawen he took hede of hys gloue, &

<sup>1</sup> orig. peyle.    <sup>2</sup> orig. haudes.    <sup>3</sup> k iij, back, col. 2.

retorned<sup>d</sup> and<sup>d</sup> sawe hys gloue,—in whyche the said smale pyeces of the sayd<sup>d</sup> relyques were,—abode hangyng<sup>i</sup> in thayer without susteynyng of ony thyng. Thenne

remains miraculously suspended in the air

4 <sup>1</sup> was this myracle seen euydently, and<sup>d</sup> al thys was shewed to the peple, For it abode in that maner whyles they myght haue goon half a leghe. And by this they

for an hour. (6002)

were al reconfermed<sup>d</sup> to say that there was none abusyon in byleuyng<sup>i</sup> & adouryng the sayd<sup>d</sup> relyques. And these thynges tofore writon in this second book ben vnderstonden in the best partye & sygnifycacion that I can or wold<sup>d</sup> say, And<sup>d</sup> I haue not sayd<sup>d</sup> ony thyng but that

12 I haue been wel enformed<sup>d</sup> by writyng<sup>i</sup>. And as for the book ensuyng, it shal make mencion of somme bataylles, and<sup>d</sup> of the ende of the barons of fraunce, of whome I haue tofore spoken al alonge.

16 ¶ Here begynneth the iij book, whyche conteyneth two partyes, by the chapytres folowyng declared<sup>i</sup>.

The contents of the third book.

20 ¶ The fyrst partye of the thyrd book conteyneth xiiij chapytres, and speketh of the warres made in spayne, and<sup>i</sup> of two meruayllous geauntes.

24 ¶ How Saynt Iames appyered<sup>i</sup> to Charles, and how, by the moyen and<sup>i</sup> the conduyte of the sterres, he went in to galyce, & what cytees he subdued : ca. j

28 <sup>2</sup> Charles, the noble Emperour, after he had<sup>d</sup> taken moche payne for to mayntene the name of god<sup>d</sup> for tenhaunce the crysten fayth, and to brynge al the world<sup>d</sup> in one trewe fayth and<sup>d</sup> byleue, & that he had<sup>d</sup> goten many contrees, he purposed neuer more to

Charles wishes after all his labours to rest from fighting.

and to devote  
himself to  
religion ;

but in a vision he  
sees a line of  
stars,

pointing to  
Galicia.

A man appears to  
him,

who declares he  
is St. James,  
the Apostle of  
Galicia,

and reproaches  
him for not  
recovering that  
country from the  
Saracens,

fyght ne to make bataylle, but to reste & lede forth a  
contemplatyf lyf, in thankynge his maker of þ<sup>e</sup> grace  
that he had gyuen to hym in surmountynge hys enemyes.  
Neuertheles on a nyght it happed hym that he byhelde 4  
the heuen, & sawe a quantyte of sterres in ordre tendynge  
alle the nyght one waye and one path. And they  
began at the see of fryselond in passynge bytwene  
alemayn and ytalye, bytwene Fraunce and guyanne, 8  
And passed ryght the sayde sterres by gascoyne, bascle,  
Nauarre, and espayne, whyche contrees he had by hys  
puyssaunce and contynuel payne conquerd and maad  
crysten. And after, the ende of the sayde sterres thus 12  
goyng in ordre, cam vnto galyce, where-as the body of  
the holy appostle was, he nat knowynge the propre  
place. Euery nyght charles byhelde the waye of the  
sayde sterres, and thought moche contynuelly what thys 16  
myght be, & that it was not wythoute cause. ¶ In  
one nyght emonge the other that charles thought on  
thys waye, a man appyered to hym in vysyon, whyche  
was so fayr, so playsaunte, and so shynynge, that it was 20  
meruaylle ; whyche sayde to hym : “ what doost thou,  
my fayre sone ? ” Charles, beyng al rauysshed, answerd :  
“ who arte thou, fayr syr ? ” That other answerd : “ I  
am Iames, the appostle of Ihesu Cryst, the sone of 24  
Zebedee, and propre broder of saynt Iohan the euan-  
gelyst, & am he whom god chaas to preche the crysten  
fayth and hys doctryne in the londe of galyce and of  
galylee, by hys holy grace, and he whom herode dyd 28  
put to deth by swerde ; and my body abydeth emonge  
the sarasyns, whyche haue entreated it vylaynsly, &  
lyeth in a place whyche is not knowen. But I mer-  
ueylle that thou hast not conquerd my londe, Seen and 32  
consyderyd that thou hast conquerd so many regyones,  
townes, & cytees in the world. wherfore I do the to  
wete, that lyke as god hath chosen the, and made the

<sup>1</sup> k v, back.



superyor in worldly puyssaunce aboue al other kynges  
 & worldly prynces, in lyke wyse emong al them that  
 lyuen thou art chosen of god<sup>1</sup>, after the conduyte of  
 4 the sterres, to delyuer my londe fro the hande of the  
 mescreaunt sarasyns and enemyes of crystendom. ¶ And  
 to thende that thou sholdest knowe in to what <sup>1</sup>place  
 thou sholdest goo, thou hast seen on the heuen the  
 8 sterres by dyuyne magnyfycence. And for to obteyne  
 the more Ioye & gretter glorye in heuen, by haultayn  
 and grete puyssaunce, thou shalt surmounte thyn ene-  
 myes, & in that same place thou sha<sup>l</sup> make and doo  
 12 edefye a chyrche in my name, to the whiche shal come  
 the crysten peple of al regyons, for to gete helthe &  
 pardon of their synnes. After that thou shalt haue  
 vysited my sepulture, and haue made the waye sure, and  
 16 ordeyned crysten men for to kepe and conserue the  
 place, it shal be a memoyre perpetuell." Thus in thys  
 maner appyered thre tymes saynt Iames to the emperour  
 Charles. After these vysyons and certyfycacyons of  
 20 god<sup>2</sup>, he called and assembled hys subgettes, whome he  
 dyd do put a grete multytude in good poynte, & after  
 took hys waye & drewe toward the contre where the  
 sterres had shewed the waye aforesayd, and came fyrst  
 24 in to spayne: and the fyrst cyte that was rebelle to hym  
 was panpylorne, whyche was ryght stronge of murayl  
 and towres, & garnysshed wyth sarasyns. and he  
 abode tofore it thre monethes, or he coude fynde maner  
 28 to confounde it. Thenne Charles knewe not what to  
 do, but to praye god and saynt Iames, for whom he  
 went, <sup>2</sup>that in the vertu of hys name he myght take  
 that cyte, and sayd in thys manere: "Fayr lord god,  
 32 my maker, helpe me that am comen in to thys contree  
 for to enhaunce the crysten fayth, for to establysshe  
 and mayntene thyn holy name. And also thou holy  
 saynt Iames, by the reuelacyon of whome I am in thys

as God wishes  
him.

He promises  
him success,  
and bids him raise  
a church to his  
name,

as a perpetual  
memorial.

After this vision  
had appeared  
thrice,

Charles starts  
with his army for  
Galicia.

He besieges Pam-  
peluna in vain for  
three months,

and then invokes  
in prayer the help  
of St. James.

<sup>1</sup> k v, back, col. 2.

<sup>2</sup> k vj.

Journeye, I requyre the that I may subdewe thys cytee,  
& entre therin, for to shewe the mysbyleuyng<sup>1</sup> peple the  
cause of theyr errour, to thende that this begynnyng  
may the better determyne the ende of myn entencyon." 4

Immediately after  
his prayer the  
walls of the city  
fall down.

Assone as Charles had<sup>1</sup> fynysshed<sup>1</sup> his oryson, the  
walles of the cyte, whyche were of marble merueillously  
strong, ouerthrew to the erthe, & fyl alle in pyeces;  
and after, charles and his hoost entred<sup>1</sup> in to the cyte; 8  
& he that wold<sup>1</sup> be baptysed<sup>1</sup> & byleue in god<sup>1</sup> wythoute  
fyctyon, was saued<sup>1</sup> and put a-parte, and who sayd<sup>1</sup> the  
contrarye, was forthwyth put to deth. Al the people of  
that contre, whan they knewe of these tydynges & 12  
meruayllous operacyons of this cyte, torned<sup>1</sup> in to Ruynes  
at the symple postulacyon of charles, without contra-  
dictyon came and yelded<sup>1</sup> them to the mercy of kyng<sup>1</sup>  
charles. And thus many were baptysed<sup>1</sup>, and chyrches 16  
were ordeyned<sup>1</sup>, and al the contreye redu<sup>1</sup>ced to certeyn  
trybute vnder the fydelyte of the emperour charles, and  
brought theyr trybutes fro the cytees wyth-oute any  
other gaynsayeng in sygne of seynourye. 20

All the country  
yields to Charles,  
who causes the  
people to be bap-  
tised, and builds  
churches.

¶ Of the cytees gotten in espayne by charles,  
& how somme were by hym destroyed'.  
[capitulo ij.]

Charles arrives at  
the tomb of St.  
James,

AFTER that charles had<sup>1</sup> the domynacyon quasi in al 24  
espayne, he came to the sepulture of Saynt Iames,  
where he dyd<sup>1</sup> hys deuocyon, and made deuoutely hys  
prayers; & after came to a place in p<sup>e</sup> lond<sup>1</sup> which was  
so ferre, that he myght goo no ferther, and there fyxed<sup>1</sup> 28  
& pyght hys spere, and that place was called<sup>1</sup> petro-  
nium; & thanked<sup>1</sup> god and saynt Iames, that by theyr  
suffraunce he was comen so ferre wythoute any contra-  
dictyon surely vnto suche place that he myght passe 32  
no ferther. And in that londe who that wold<sup>1</sup> byleue

at a place called  
Petronium.

<sup>1</sup> k vj, col. 2.

in god, tharchebysshop Turpyn baptysed them ; & who  
 that wold not, he was slayn, or put in pryson. And after  
 Charles wente from one see to that other, and thenne he  
 4 gate in galyce xiiij cytees, emonge whome compostelle  
 was thenne the leste. In espayne he had xvj grete  
 townes & stronge, emonge whome <sup>1</sup>was onsea, in which  
 were wont to be x stronge toures, & a toun named  
 8 petrosse, in whyche was made the fynest syluer that  
 had thenne cours. Also another cyte named attentyua,  
 where as the body of saynt Torquete rested, whyche was  
 dysceple of saynt Iames, and there vpon the sepulture  
 12 was an olyue tree, [whyche dyd] florysshe & bere rype  
 fruyt a certayn day of may euery yere withoute fayllyng.

He captures 13  
 cities in Galicia,  
 and 16 in Spain,

Alle the contreye of spayne that tyme was subgette  
 to charles, That is to wete, the londe of alandaluf, the  
 16 londe of perdoures, the londe of castellans, the londe of  
 maures, The londe of portyngale, the londe of sarasyns,  
 the londe of nauarre, the londe of Alemans, The londe  
 of byscoys, the londe of bascles, the londe of palargyens,  
 20 and somme of theyr cytees taken by warre, subtyl and  
 mortal, And somme wythoute warre. he coude not  
 wynne the grete towne of Lucerne, tyl at the laste he  
 layed syege tofore it by the space of foure monethes.  
 24 and it stode in a grene valeye. And after, whan he saw  
 that they wold not yelde them, & that he coude not  
 wynne them, he made hys prayer vnto god, and to  
 saynt Iames, that he myght be vycctorious, seen that he  
 28 had nomore to termyne in that contreye, but that cyte  
 onely. hys oryson was herde, soo that <sup>2</sup>the walles fyl  
 doun to the erthe, and was put to destructyon in suche  
 wyse, þat neuer man dwelled therin after, and after it  
 32 sanke, and therin was an abysme or swolowe of water,  
 In whyche were founden after, fysshes alle blacke.  
 Emonge the other cytees that he took, there were iiij  
 that dyd hym moche payne, or he myght gete them, &

the whole of  
 which was subject  
 to him.

He besieges  
 Lucerne for 4  
 months,  
 but in vain,

and then prays to  
 St. James,

when the walls  
 fall down, and  
 the city is taken,

and turned into a  
 lake containing  
 black fishes.

<sup>1</sup> k vj, back.

<sup>2</sup> k vj, back, col. 2.

therefore he gaf them the maladyctyon of god, and they were cursed, in suche wyse that vnto thys day there is in them none habytacion; & the sayd cytees been named lucerne, ventose, caperce, & adame. 4

¶ Of the grete ydole that was in a cyte, whyche coude not be smyton down, and of the condycyons and' sygnes therof: ca. iij 8

Charles destroys  
all the idols;

but at Salancadys  
was a great idol,

kept so by devils  
that none could  
destroy it,

and which no  
Christian dare  
approach.

It stood on a  
large stone,  
richly carved,

W Han Charles had doon in spayne & other places, wyth the Inhabytauntes of it at hys wylle, Alle thydolles and other symylacres that he fonde, he dyd do destroye and put to confusyon. But in the londe of 12 Alandaluf, in a cyte called Salancadys, in arabyque, was<sup>1</sup> the place of a grete god, as the sarasyns sayd. That ydolle was made of the honde of Machomme in the tyme that he lyued, & was named Mahomet<sup>2</sup> in 16 thonour of hym: and by arte magyke and dyabolyke he closed therin a legyon of deuylls, for to kepe it and make sygnes for to abuse the peple. and thys ydolle was kepte so by deuylls, that noo persone lyuyng coude by 20 strengthe destroye it, ne put it down. In suche wyse that yf any crysten man came nyghe for to see it, or to coniure it, or to destroye, Assone as he began to coniure and preche, anon he was perysshed & destroyed. And 24 the sarasyns that came for to preche, adoure, make sacrefyse, or doo obeyssaunce therto, were wythout peryl; and yf by aduenture, a byrde fleyng came & rested vpon it, Incontynent it was deed. The stone 28 vpon whyche thydolle was sette was meruayllously made. It was a stone of the see, wrought of sarasyns, and grauen subtylly of grete and ryche facyon, the whyche was enhaunced vpryght, not without grete 32 crafte & connyng. toward the erth it was meruayllously

<sup>1</sup> orig. and was.

<sup>2</sup> k vij.



- grete, & alway vpward it was lasse; and that stone was  
 so hye as a crowe myght flee: vpon whyche stone was  
 thydolle sette, whyche was of fyn yuorye, after thas-  
 4 semblaunce of a man stondyng vpryght on his feet, &  
 had hys face torned to the south, & helde in his ryght  
 honde a grete keye, & the sarasyns were certefyed<sup>1</sup> for  
 trouthe that whan a kyng of fraunce shold be borne,  
 8 & in strengthe to subdue the contreye of spayne, and  
 brynge it in to crysten fayth, the ymage shold lete falle  
 the keye, whych shold be a sygne pat the kyng of  
 fraunce shold conquere them. So therne in the tyme  
 12 that the noble kyng charles regned in spayne, for to  
 brynge it to the crysten faith, the ydolle lete the keye  
 falle down to the grounde. And whan the sarasyns  
 sawe that, They hydde theyr tresours, as golde, syluer,  
 16 and precyous stoonnes, in therth, by cause the crysten  
 men shold no thyng fynde therof, & they al wente in  
 to another regyon, and durst not abyde the comyng of  
 the kyng.

and was of fine  
ivory,

and held in his  
hand a key,

which was to fall  
when a king  
should come to  
subdue the  
country.

On the approach  
of Charles the  
key falls.

20 ¶ Of the chyrche of saynt Iames in galyce,  
 and of dyuers other whyche Kyng Charles  
 founded: capitulo iiij

- 24 Charles beyng in galyce had Innumerable quantyte  
 of gold, of syluer, and of precyous stones, of many  
 kynges, prynces, and other lordes, and of trybutes of  
 cytees that was gyuen to hym as lord.

Charles, having  
an immense  
quantity of gold  
and silver,

- ¶ Also he had moche of the tresour that he conquerd  
 28 of the townes and contreyes of Spayne<sup>2</sup> aforesayd.  
 Thenne he, seyng the grete habundaunce of good, dyd  
 do compose and make a chirche of Saynt Iames, in the  
 place where-as he had founde the body of hym. and  
 32 he abode there the space of thre yere wythout departyng,  
 and in that same place he ordeyned a bysshop, and

builds a church  
to St. James,

and ordains a  
bishop

<sup>1</sup> k vij, col. 2.

<sup>2</sup> k vij, back.

and three canons. founded there chanonnes regular, vnder the rule of  
 saynt Ysodore the confessour; & bought & ordeyned  
 He endows the church, for them rentes & trybutes suffycient, and gaf to them  
 and supplies vestments and ornaments. singuler seynourye. He furnysshed the chyrche wyth 4  
 belles, vessellys of golde and syluer, adournements of  
 precyous clothes, & al thynges necessa<sup>re</sup> & apper-  
 teynyng<sup>1</sup> in a chyrche pontyfical. also of bokes, vesty-  
 mentes, chalices, & other holy escriptures. And of 8  
 the resydue of gold and syluer, that he brought oute of  
 spayne, he dyd doo edefye these chyrches folowyng.  
 ¶ Fyrst, at Acon, in almayne, where as he is buryed,  
 he dyd doo make a chirche of our lady; and though it 12  
 be lytel, yet is it moche rychely made. The chyrche  
 of Saynt Iames in the toun of vyterbe; also the chyrche  
 of saynt Iames in the cytee of Tholouse: The chyrche  
 of Saynt Iames in gascoyne; also the chirche of saynt 16  
 Iames in parys, bytwene the sayne & the moun<sup>te</sup> of  
 martres. & aboue the chyrches aforesayd, he founded,  
 rented, & releued many & dyuers chyrches, monasteryes,  
 & other abbeyes in the world, in many and dyuers 20  
 places.

¶ How, after that Aygolant the geaunt had  
 taken spayne & put to deth the crysten  
 people, Charles recouerd' it, and' other 24  
 maters: capitulo v

After Charles's  
 return to France,

Algolant, an  
 African giant,  
 reconquers Spain,

and puts the  
 Christians to  
 death.

**A**fter that charles was retorned in to Fraunce, a  
 kyng<sup>1</sup> sarasyn of affryque, named aygolant, wyth  
 grete puyssaunce came in to spayne, and remysed it in 28  
 hys subgectyon. And the crysten which charles had  
 left there, as many as he myght gete, he put to deth,  
 and the other fledde. And in shorte tyme the tydynges  
 came vnto kyng Charles, wherof he was moche abasshed 32  
 & angry, bycause it was shewed to hym so pyetously.

<sup>1</sup> k vij, back, col. 2.

wherefore Incontynent he assembled a grete hoost, & wyth a grete multytude of fyghtyng men he went thyder wythout taryeng. And he made the conduytour  
4 of them al Myllon of angleres, the fader of Rolland. & they cessed not tyl that they had tydynges where Aygolant the geaunt was, whyche had doon thys feat. whan charles knewe where Aygolant was lodged, <sup>1</sup>and  
8 semblably aygolant knewe where Charles was, Anone the geaunt sente to charles that he wold delyuer bataylle suche as he wold. That is to wete that Charles shold sende to hym xx of hys men to fyght ageynst xx of hys  
12 sarasyns, or xl ayenst xl, or an C ayenst C, or a thousand ayenst a thousand, or two men ayenst two, or one man ayenst one man onely. kyng Charles, seyng thenten-  
16 cyon of aygolant, for thouour of noblesse he wold not refuse hys demaunde, but sent to hym an C knyghtes in grete poynte, and the geaunte sente another hondred  
ayenst the crysten men, but anone the sarasyns were vanquysshed & put to deth, and after were sente by  
20 aygolant two hondred sarasyns ayenst two hondred crysten men, whyche Sarasyns were anone wythoute grete resystence put to deth and slayn. Aygolant was not contente, ne wold not leue herby, but sente two  
24 thousand sarasyns ayenst ij M crysten men, and whan they were in batayll, many of þe sarasyns were slayn, and the other put to flyght for to saue them self. The thyrde day after, Aygolant maad certeyn experyences,  
28 and knewe that yf Charles made warre to hym he shold haue grete losse, and sent to Charles to wete yf he wold make playne warre. Charles <sup>2</sup>was contente, and there vpon they made redy theyr peple, and  
32 specyally charles, for hys subgettes had grete affectyon to goo to bataylle without ony fere of deth. And also somme of the crysten men, the day tofore the bataylle, dyd do amende and araye theyr harnoys, and sette

Milo, Roland's father, is put in command.

Aygolant challenges any number of Charles's men to fight against an equal number of his.

Charles sends 100 knights,

who slay the 100 Saracens;

and after 200, who also kill their opponents.

Aygolant sends 2000 Saracens,

but they also are defeated.

Both sides prepare for a general engagement.

<sup>1</sup> k viij.

<sup>2</sup> k viij, col. 2.

By a miracle it is shown which of the French soldiers should be killed in the battle.

From their spears springs up a great wood.

Milo and 50 knights are slain,

but the Saracens are put to flight.

Reinforcements come to Charles,

whereupon Aigolant flies to Africa.

Charles returns to France,

theyr tentes nygh a ryuer named ceye, and pyght there theyr speres, euen in the place where as the bodyes of saynt faconde and saynt premytyf rested, where after was made a chyrche deuoutely founded, and also a 4 stronge cyte by the moyn of the sayd Charles, and in the place where the speres were pyght, our lord shewed grete myracle. For of them that shold deye there and be gloryfyed marters of god & crowned in heuen, theyr 8 speres on þ<sup>e</sup> morn were founden al grene, floressed and leued, whyche was a precedent sygne that they whyche shold deye shold haue the Ioye in heuen. ¶ Eche man took his owne, and cutte of the bowes & 12 leues, wyth whyche the leues were planted and vnder-roted, wherof in a lytel whyle after grewe a grete wode, whyche stondest there yet. It was grete meruayle of the Ioye that the horses made, whyche dyd theyr 16 deuoyrs as wel as the men after theyr qualyte, whyche was a grete token. Thenne L valyaunt <sup>1</sup>crysten men were slayne, And emonge the other was slayne duc Myllon, fader to Roulland. Also that same day the 20 hors of charles was slayn vnder hym, & whan he was a fote he maad grete murdre wyth hys swerde Ioyouse, and dyd so moche that the sarasyns, dredyng the euenyng, fledde & wythdrewe them in to place of 24 surete. And as it was the wyll of our lord, the next day after came to Charles in to his helpe iiij marquyse of ytalye, accompanied wyth iiij M stronge fyghtyng men & chosen. wherfore Aygolant, assone as he knewe 28 of theyr comyng, he fled and wythdrewe hym ouer the see toward hys contree. but they myzt not for hast bere with them al theyr tresours, wherfor fraunce was enryched meruayllously aboue alle other contrees. 32

¶ And whan charles sawe his departyng he came wyth al hys rychesse in to fraunce, and thenne, duryng seuen yere, he dyd do ordeyne the seruyce and offyce of

<sup>1</sup> k viij, back.



the chyrche by preestes & clerkes, and the festes of sayntes of all the yere ; and grete vertu & meruayllous effect was comprysed in thys man. For whan it was  
 4 not warre for to mynysshe thynfydellys and encrease the crysten fayth, For tenhaunce the name of god he made the offyces and legendes of holy sayntes, & dyd <sup>1</sup>reduce in to mynde and remembraunce the passyons of holy  
 8 marters in establysshynge theyr feestes, to thende that we shold ensyewe them, and to eschewe al euyll. And the magnytude of thys kyng was wel preued by sygnes seen on the heuen. For in the same yere the mone  
 12 derked thre tymes, and the sonne ones, and companyes of people were seen meruayllous, whyche shewed that thys Charles was of grete magnytude, that is to wete betwene heuen and erthe.

and occupies himself in drawing up rules and services for the Church.

This year were three eclipses of the moon, and one of the sun.

16 ¶ How Aygolant sent to charles that he shold come to hym trustely for to make Iust warre, and how Charles in habyte dys-symyled spake to hym, and of other  
 20 maters : capitulo vj

**A**S I haue sayd the kyn[ge,] Aygolant the geaunte, fledde in to hys contreye, whan socours cam to Charles of foure marques. he slepte not vpon his  
 24 purpoos, but maad grete dylygence for to assemble hys people, whyche were sarasyns Innumerable, for he assembled mores, Moabytes, Ethiopiens, Affrycans, and pereyens ; he brought wyth hym also the kyng of  
 28 arabye, the kyng of barbarye, the kyng of malroste, the kyng of <sup>2</sup>maioryke, the kyng of meques, the kyng of cybylle, & the kyng of Cordube, the whych cam with people wythout nombre, certain, in to gascoyne, in to a  
 32 stronge cyte named Agenne, and took it. And after sent to Charles that he shold come to hym peasybly &

Aigolant collects an immense army,

and again invades Gascony, and captures the city of Agenne.

<sup>1</sup> k viij, back, col. 2.

<sup>2</sup> l j.

Aigolant invites  
Charles to visit  
him unattended.

Charles sets out  
with 2000 knights,

whom he leaves,  
except 40,  
near the city.

He himself, in  
disguise and with  
only one attend-  
ant, enters the  
city,

and presents him-  
self as a messenger  
from Charles,

to say he had  
come with only  
40 attendants.

Aigolant replies  
that he will go  
and meet the  
French king.

trustly, with a few peple, promysynge to hym for to  
gyue to hym ix hors laden with gold, syluer, and pre-  
cious stones, yf he wold thus come at hys desyre. this  
paynym shewed to hym this by cause he wold knowe 4  
his persone, for hys strengthe & puyssaunce knewe he  
wel by experyence, and also to thende whan he knewe  
hym that he myght in the warre flee hym. whan kyng  
charles knewe this mandement he gadred not grete 8  
peple, but he came onely wyth ij M knyghtes of honour  
and of grete strength. And whan he was foure myle  
nygh the cyte, where Aygolant and al the kynges tofore  
named were, he left his people secretly, & came vnto a 12  
mountayne nygh the cyte, accompanied wyth xl  
knyghtes onely. And fro thys place they saw the cyte,  
by cause to wete yf the multytude of peple were de-  
parted, soo that he shold not be deceyued. Neuertheles 16  
vpon thys montayne he lefte hys people secretly, and  
took of hys clothes, and cladde hym in the guyse of a  
messenger, and <sup>1</sup>took one knyght onely with hym,  
whyche bare his spere & swerde and bocler vnder hys 20  
mantel, and soo came in to the cyte, and anone he was  
brought tofore aygolaunt the geaunt. And whan he was  
tofore hym he sayd in thys manere: "Charles the kyng  
hath sente vs vnto the, and leteth the wete by vs that 24  
he is comen lyke as thou hast comanded, accompanied  
wyth fourty knyghtes onely, for to do that he ought to  
doo. Now thenne come to hym wyth xl knyghtes,  
withoute moo, yf thou wylt accomplysse and holde 28  
that thou hast promysed." Aygolant sayd to hem that  
they shold retorne to charles, and that they shold say  
to hym that he departe not, but abyde hym there, and  
he wold come and vysyte hym. After this that charles 32  
had knowen the geaunt, and after vysyted the towne,  
for to knowe the feblest parte for to take and conquer  
it whan he shold come ageyn, & sawe al the kynges

forsayd & their puyssaunces, he after retorned to his  
 peple whiche he had left vpon the montayne, & after  
 came to hys ij M knyghtes. & anone after aygolant,  
 4 accompanied wyth vij M knyghtes, came after them  
 withoute taryeng. But charles took hede whan he cam  
 that there were many moo paynymys than crysten men,  
 and <sup>1</sup>wythout lenger taryeng charles & his peple de-  
 8 parted, and retorned in to fraunce wythout hauyng  
 other delyberacyon.

Charles, having  
 spied out all the  
 city, departs.

Aigolant, with  
 7000 men, follows  
 him,

but Charles  
 escapes.

¶ How Charles, accompanied with moche  
 peple, retorned in to the place aforesayd &  
 12 toke the cyte of agenne, & other maters :  
 [capitulo] vij

16 **A**fter that charles was retorned in to fraunce he  
 assembled moche peple, & after came to the cyte  
 of agenne, & assyged it there by grete facyon,  
 the space of vij monethes. Aygolant was therin &  
 many sarasyns, & the crysten men had made fortressis  
 & castelles of tree tofore this cyte for to greue it. Whan  
 20 Aygolant & the grete lordes of his companye sawe þat  
 they myght not endure, they maad hooles & caues vnder  
 therth for tescape oute secretly : in that maner they came  
 out of the cyte, & passed ouer a ryuer, which ranne by  
 24 the cyte, named goronna, and so they saued them self.  
 The next day after, whan there was noo grete resyst-  
 ence made to the crysten men, Charles wyth grete  
 tryumphe & puyssaunce entred in to the cyte, & put to  
 28 deth x M sarasyns that he there fonde. The other,  
 seying that, put them to flyght by the ryuer. Aygolant  
<sup>2</sup>was in another stronge toun, & whan charles knewe it  
 he came thyder & assaylled it, & sente to hym to delyuer  
 32 ouer the cyte. aygolant ansuerd that he wold not so  
 doo, but by a moyen that was, that they shold make a

Charles assembles  
 a large army,

and lays siege to  
 Agenne, which he  
 surrounds.

Aigolant and his  
 lords escape by  
 mines.

Charles enters the  
 city,

and after besieges  
 the city to which  
 Aigolant had fled.

<sup>1</sup> 1 j, back.

<sup>2</sup> 1 j, back, col. 2.

Aigolant proposes  
a general battle.

Those of the  
Christians who  
were destined to  
die are again  
pointed out by a  
miracle.

The Saracens are  
utterly defeated.

batayll, & he that shold wynne the bataylle shold be lord of þe toun, & so they assygned the day of the bataylle. and nygh to that place, bytwene the castel thalabout & a ryuer called carantha, somme of the 4  
crysten men planted theyr speres in the grounde, especially they that on the morn shold deye, & obteyne the crowne of glorye as marters of god. and on the morne they fonde their speres al grene & myraculously leued, 8  
& ful of bowes, wherof the cristen men were moche Ioyous of this myracle, and raught not for to deye for þe crysten fayth in mayntenynge the name of god. After that they cutte of theyr speres and wente to 12  
bataylle, and put many sarasyns to deth. But in thende were slayn and martred, of crysten men moo than iiij M whyche were saued in heuen; & that tyme the hors that Charles rode on was slayn vnder hym, 16  
and at that bataylle were slayn by the sayd Charles the kynge of Agabye [&] the kyng of bugye, merueyllous myghty sarasyns.

<sup>1</sup>¶ Of the vertuous operacions that charles 20  
made whan he was retorned' in to fraunce,  
& what barons he had' in hys companye, &  
of theyr puyssaunce: ca. viij

After his defeat  
Aigolant flies to  
Pampeluna.

Charles returns  
to France for  
reinforcements.

**T**He bataylle toforesayd made, Aigolant fledde and 24  
came in to panpylone, and sent to kyng charles  
that he shold abyde hym for to gyue hym bataylle  
more ample & large. Whan charles knewe hys desyre  
he retourned in to fraunce for to haue helpe of hys 28  
peple, and made an open maundement thorough out al  
Fraunce that al maner peple that were of euyl condycyon  
and in bondage, that they that were present, and theyr  
successours, shold be free, & there vpon tabellyons shold 32  
be delyuerd accordyng to the lawe, that wold goo with



- hym ayenst the myscreauntes. Also alle prysonners  
 that were in fraunce, he delyuerd them al out of  
 pryson, & to al them that shold haue ben delyuerd to  
 4 deth for felonnye, murdre, or treason, he pardouned  
 them & gaf to them theyr lyf; and to al poure peple  
 that had not wherby to lyue, he gaf to them good  
 largely, & them that were euyll clad, he clothed them  
 8 after theyr degree. alle them that were at debate he  
 peased them & accorded; Alle them þat were dys-  
 heryted & put oute from theyr lyuelode he restored al  
 to them; Alle þe peple<sup>1</sup> that myght bere armes he  
 12 armed them. The valyaunt squyers of theyr persones  
 he made knyghtes, & al them that were in hys Indyg-  
 nacyon & pryued [f]ro hys loue, & bannysshed for the  
 loue of god, he was constraynede to pardonne them, &  
 16 made pees with euery man. and thenne he was four-  
 nysshed of moo than an C thousand men wel fyghtyng,  
 wythoute them that were a-fote, whyche were Innum-  
 erable. And for to gyue courage to the prynces of Charles,  
 20 Turpyn sayd in this maner: "I, Turpyn, archebyssshop  
 of Raynes by the grace of god, shal gyue good courage  
 to crysten people, and shal slee the Infydels, sarasyns,  
 with myn owne handes." ¶ Wyth Charles was  
 24 Roulland of Cenonye, neuewe of Charles, sone of hys  
 syster, dame Berthe, & of Duke Myllon, wyth foure  
 thousand fyghtyng men; Olyuer, duc of genes, sone of  
 duc Reyner, with iij M fyghtyng men: Aristagius,  
 28 kyng of brytayne, wyth vij thousand fyghtyng men;  
 Not wythstondyng that in brytayne was another kyng,  
 Eugelius, whyche was duke of Guyan, whome Au-  
 gustus Cezar had ordeyned, wyth the byturyciens, the  
 32 monyques, pictauyns, scauctonens, and Elogysmes,  
 cytees with their prouynces vnder guyan: & he cam  
 with iij M horsmen <sup>2</sup>good fyghtars; Garferus, kyng  
 of bordeloyes, with iiij M men; Salamon, fellow of estok;

He frees all  
prisoners,

clothes the poor,

restores the  
disinherited,

and raises the  
esquires to  
kighthood,  
on condition of  
joining his army.

Turpin assures  
him of success.

With Charles are  
Roland, Oliver,  
and Aristagius  
with 14,000 men.

Besides were men  
from Guienne,

<sup>1</sup> 1 ij, col. 2.

<sup>2</sup> 1 ij, back.

Burgundy,

Lorraine, and  
other provinces.

bawdewyn, brother of Rolland; Naymes, duc of bauyere, wyth x M fyghtyng<sup>1</sup> men; Hoel of Nauntes, & Lambert, prynce of bourgoyn, wyth ij M fyghtars; Sanson, duc of bourgoyn, with x M; Garyn, duc of 4 lorayne, & many other; and Charles had of his owne contre moo than fyfty M men. The excercyte of Charles, the noble emperour, and ryght puyssaunt kyng<sup>1</sup> of Fraunce, was so grete and so ample that it helde 8 two iourneyes longe, & in brede half o iourneye & more; In suche wyse that of the bruyt that was made for the grete multytude of the frensshemen, it was herde two myle ferre and more. 12

¶ Of the tryews of Charles & of Aygolant, and of the deth of hys peple, & wherfore aygolant was not baptysed<sup>1</sup>: capitulo ix

Aigolant, fright-  
ened at the num-  
bers of the French,proposes a con-  
ference.

**T**He whyl that charles was a yonge chylde he 16 lerne<sup>1</sup> at Toulete the langage of sarasyns, and spake it whan he wold. Aygolant, thys geaunt and grete Lord, coude not abstayne hym, and cam nygh vnto crystyente, and sente to Charles to come to 20 hym vnto Pampylone, and tryews was<sup>1</sup> maad bytwene them. For Aygolant consydered the multytude of hys people and the puyssaunces of their persones. For by cours of nature hym semed he shold surmounte the 24 crysten peple, but he thought that the god of crysten people was more certayn and trewe than the god of the paynyms; but er he wold declyne fro the worshypping of hys goddes, he had desyre to assaye yet ones the nombre 28 of paynyms ayenst the nombre of crysten men. And he was contente to make a pacte and couenaunt wyth charles, that he that shold obteyne the victorye vpon others peple, that his god were holden and worshypped, 32 And that the god of hym that shold lose the bataylle

It is agreed to  
leave the question  
of religion to a  
trial of arms  
between equal  
numbers.<sup>1</sup> 1 ij, back, col. 2.

shold be of noo valure, renyed, and reputed for nought.  
 And vpon thys couenaunte were sente twenty crysten  
 knyghtes ayenst xx knyghtes paynymys. And anone  
 4 as they were assembled and medled to-gyder, the twenty  
 sarasyns were slayn. And after were sente fourty ayenst  
 fourty, And anone the sarasyns were slayn and vayn-  
 quysshed. And after he sent an C. ayenst an C., but  
 8 they were not slayne, but fledde. Aygolant thougt he  
 wold do better, and sent ij hondred ayenst ij C., and  
 anone the sarasyns were ouercomen & slayn. <sup>1¶</sup> Thys  
 geaunt was euyl contente of the destructyon of hys  
 12 peple, and for to make a grete descomfyte, he sente a  
 thousand sarasyns ayenst a M cristen men, and wyth-  
 oute makyng grete rebellyon, the sarasyns were anone  
 slayn and put to deth. Thenne the kyng Aygolant, by  
 16 experyence for-made, afermed the fayth & the lawe of  
 crysten peple to be better, more sure, & more certeyn  
 than the lawe of the paynymys and sarasyns, and thus he  
 was enclyned to the crysten fayth, & dysposed hym to  
 20 receyue baptym on the morne without fayntyse; and  
 here vpon he demanded tryews and surete for to goo &  
 come to Charles, & he graunted it to hym wyth good  
 hert. and thus atte houre of tyerce, whan charles was  
 24 at dyner, Aygolant had entencyon to see charles and  
 hys maner at mete, for to knowe hys astate, yf it were  
 vaylเลอร์ous and soo grete as it was in armes and in  
 bataylles. And also he came pryneypally for to be  
 28 baptysed, and he sawe Charles at hys table with grete  
 magnyfycence, and after behelde the ordre of hys peple  
 and sawe that somme were in habyte of knyghtes and  
 grete prynces, Other in habyte of channons & monkes;  
 32 & asked so that he was certefyed of euery ordre, and  
 the cause of theyr estate, and after <sup>2</sup>that he sawe  
 in a parte of y<sup>e</sup> halle syttyng on the grounde, xiiij  
 poure persones, which dynd & ete as other dyd. for

20 Christians  
engage as many  
Saracens, and  
slay them;

and after 40 over-  
come 40 Saracens;

and finally 1000  
Christians slay  
1000 Saracens.

Aigolant is con-  
vinced, and agrees  
to receive baptism.

He asks to see  
Charles at meat  
with his lords.

He sees 13 poor  
men, sitting on  
the ground at  
dinner,

<sup>1</sup> 1 iij.

<sup>2</sup> 1 iij, col. 2.

and asks who and what they are.

Charles tells him they are maintained in memory of our Lord and His Apostles.

Aigolant reproves Charles for treating his lords so much better than the servants of God,

and refuses to be baptised.

Charles is enraged,

charles of custom wold not take his repaste tyl he had xiiij poure men in the worschypp of our lord and of his xij appostles, & he toke hede how these poure men satte on the grounde without towayl in ryght poure 4 habyte, & dyned al soroufully, & he demaunded what people they were. Charles ansuerd & sayd: "they be goddes peple and messagers of our lord Ihesu cryst, whome I susteyne in thonour of hym & his xij appostles 8 that he had with hym, & gyue to them refectyon corporel." Aygolant said: "certeynlye he serueth euyl hys lord y<sup>t</sup> receyueth his messagers in thys manere. I see wel that they that ben aboute the been in good 12 poynt & wel arayed, & wel serued of mete & drynke, & the seruauantes of thy god lyue pourely & euyl clothed ayenst y<sup>e</sup> colde, & ben withdrawen ferre fro the. he dooth grete shame to his lord that receyueth his mes- 16 sagers in this manere. & more ouer, I see now wel that the lawe whyche thou hast sayd to me to be good & holy, by thy werkes thou shewest them to be fals & of no valewe." & herof aygolant was all moeued & troubled 20 in his entendement, & he beyng put out alle fro hys purpose, toke leue of the <sup>1</sup>kyng & retourned to hys peple, & renounced to be baptysed, and sente word to charles for to begynne warre ageyn on y<sup>e</sup> morne more 24 stronge than euer he had doon tofore.

¶ Of the deth of aygolant and of his peple, & how moche crysten peple were slayn by concupyscence of syluer, & of crysten men 28 founden dede by myracle: [ca.] x

**W**Han charles sawe Aygolant come for to baptysen hym he was moche Ioyous, but whan he retourned & forsoke it he was euyl contente, & 32 took aduys vpon the pour men whyche he sayd were

<sup>1</sup> 1 iij, back.



messagers of god. For after the pouerte of them, and  
 after that they were named, fore to holde them so, was  
 none honour to theyr mayster, & the emperour re-  
 4 membred wel that the peple of god ought to be re-  
 ceuyed honestly, & honourably holden & serued. wherfor  
 the poure men that he fonde in thexcercyte he dyd  
 them to be wel clothed & honestly, and gaf to them  
 8 mete largely, And took suche custome in hym self that  
 he faylled not, but the pour peple were receuyed with  
 honour in his companye. vpon thys purpose on a day  
 folowyng, the sarasyns put them to bataylle, and to  
 12 fyght layenst the crysten men by grete fyerste, and  
 there was soo grete destructyon that day of the sarasyns,  
 that the crysten men were empesshed and lette by the  
 blood that ranne so habundantly, as it had rayned many  
 16 dayes water and blood. wherefore<sup>2</sup> Aygolant, seyng  
 the destructyon of his people as he that doubted nothing  
 to deye, aduauced<sup>3</sup> so hym self that he was slayn and  
 put to deth, and after the cristen men entred in to the  
 20 cyte of pampylone, and put to deth al the sarasyns that  
 they fonde therin.

and has all these  
 poor men clothed  
 and honourably  
 treated.

A great battle  
 takes place,

in which the  
 Saracens are  
 defeated,

and Aigolant  
 himself slain.

Thenne the kyng of Cybylle & the kyng of cordube  
 saued them self with somme of their subgettes. After  
 24 thys the crysten men ful of couetyse for to haue gold  
 and syluer of the sarasyns that were deed retorne, And  
 whan they were wel charged & laden wyth golde, syluer,  
 and other hauoyr, the kyng of Cybylle and the kyng  
 28 of Cordube took hede ther of, And wyth al their meyne  
 came couertly vpon the crysten men, and put to deth  
 moo than a thousand.

The kings of  
 Seville and of  
 Cordova fall on  
 the Christians  
 laden with booty,  
 and kill more  
 than 1000,

¶ Thus may be knowen that the ardeur of concupy-  
 32 scence was cause of the deth of the soule wythoute  
 vyctorye, and to god dysplaysaunte. ¶ On the morne  
 tydynges came how so many sarasyns were slayn, and

from which we  
 may see the  
 danger of covet-  
 ousness.

<sup>1</sup> l iij, back, col. 2.

<sup>2</sup> orig. wherforr.

<sup>3</sup> orig. and aduauced.



The king of  
Navarre chal-  
lenges Charles.

He accepts, and  
prays to God to  
point out which  
of the Christians  
are destined to  
die.

This being shown  
to him,

he locks them up  
in his chapel,

and goes to battle  
without them.

On his return he  
finds them all  
dead.

specyally of aygolant, vnto the prynce <sup>1</sup>of Nauarre  
named Furre, wherfore he sent to Charles to haue  
batayll ordynayre. Charles was so noble, so puyssaunt,  
& so trustyng<sup>i</sup> in god, whan he faught for the crysten <sup>4</sup>  
fayth that he refused hym not. and after, at the day of  
bataylle, whyche was assygned on bothe partyes, Charles  
put hym self to prayer, and prayed god deuoutely that  
it plesed hym, to shew what crysten men shold deye in <sup>8</sup>  
that bataylle. and on the day folowyng whan euery  
man was armed for to fyght, by the wylle of our lord  
Charles sawe that same day the sygne of the crosse alle  
rede vpon the sholdres behynde vpon theyr harnoyes. <sup>12</sup>  
whan charles sawe it he thanked our lord & had com-  
passyon of theyr deth, by cause of the valyaunce of  
theyr persones. Thenne he sent for all them that bare  
thensigne & made them to goo in to hys oratorye, and <sup>16</sup>  
after shette them fast therin, to the ende that they shold  
not take deth that day; and thenne wyth al his other  
hoost he went ayenst thoost of the prynce furre, but it  
was not longe but furre and hys people were destroyed <sup>20</sup>  
and put to deth. and whan that was doon the emperour  
came in to hys oratorye vycoryous vpon hys enemyes,  
and fonde al them that were shette wythin dede &  
expyred, & thenne knewe <sup>2</sup>he wel that alle they that <sup>24</sup>  
were marked with the crosse were assygned that day to  
be receyued in to heuen with glorie & crowne of marter-  
dom, & that it apperteyned not to Charles to prolonge  
theyr helthe. wherfore he is wel symple that wyl put <sup>28</sup>  
hym in payne to eschewe the passage of whyche he is  
not maystre.

¶ Of feragus the merueyllous geaunt, how he  
bare alwaye wyth hym the barons of fraunce <sup>32</sup>  
wyth out daunger, & how Roulland' faught  
wyth hym : capitulo xj.

<sup>1</sup> 1 iiij.

<sup>2</sup> 1 iiij, col. 2.

After that aygolant was slayn, & Furre, & many  
 kynges sarasyns as tofore is wryton, the tydynges  
 cam to the admyral of babyloune, the which had a  
 4 geant moche terryble, that was of the generacion of  
 golias, & he made hym to be accompanied with xx M  
 turkes moche strong, and sente hym for to fyght ayenst  
 charles themperour. For hys puyssaunce was redoubte<sup>d</sup>  
 8 thurgh the world, & the sayd feragus cam vnto the cyte  
 of vagyere, nygh to saynt Iames, bytwene cristendom  
 & hethenes, & sent to Charles that he shold come to  
 fyght ayenst hym. This geant was moche meruayllous,  
 12 For he doubted neyther spere ne swerde, ne arowe, ne  
 other shotte. And he had the strengthe of xl <sup>1</sup>myghty  
 men and stronge. Anone as Charles knewe the tydynges  
 of hys comyng<sup>t</sup>, he went to hym and was vpon his  
 16 watche nygh by vagyere. Whan thys was knowen this  
 geaunte yssued<sup>t</sup> oute of the towne, and demaunded syn-  
 gular persone ayenst a persone. Charles, whiche neuer  
 had refused that to persone, sente to hym Ogier the  
 20 danoys. but whan the geant sawe hym allone on the  
 felde, without makyng<sup>t</sup> of ony semblaunte of warre, he  
 came allone to hym, & took hym wyth one hande &  
 put hym vnder hys arme, wythoute doynge to hym ony  
 24 harme, and bare hym vnto hys lodgys, and dyd do put  
 hym in pryson, and made nomore a-doo to bere hym,  
 than dooth a wulf to bere a lytel lambe. The heyght  
 of thys geaunt was of twelue cubytes: he had the face  
 28 a cubyte brode, the nose a palme longe, the armes &  
 thyes four cubytes long<sup>t</sup>. The backe of his hand was  
 thre palmes longe. After that Ogier was borne thus  
 awaye, Charles sente raynold<sup>t</sup> daulbepyn. whan Feragus  
 32 sawe hym, he bare hym a-waye as lyghtly as the other.  
 Charles was abasshed<sup>t</sup> and sent tweyne other, that is to  
 wete, constayn of Rome, & therle hoel. This geaunt  
 took that one wyth<sup>2</sup> the ryght honde and that other

The Amir of  
 Babylon sends  
 Ferragus, a mar-  
 vellous giant,

to fight against  
 Charles.

He challenges any  
 French knight.

Charles sends  
 Ogier to meet him,

but Ferragus  
 takes him under  
 his arm and

carries him off,  
 as a wolf would a  
 lamb.

Charles then  
 sends Raynold,  
 and he also is  
 carried off.

Then Constayn  
 and Hoel are sent,

<sup>1</sup> l iij, back.

<sup>2</sup> orig. wyght.

but Ferragus  
carries them off,  
one in each hand.

Roland asks leave  
to fight the giant.

Charles reluct-  
antly gives his  
consent.

Ferragus lifts  
Roland up with  
one hand, and  
lays him on his  
horse before him.

Roland, by an  
effort, overthrows  
the giant.

Roland kills the  
Saracen's horse,

and wounds  
Ferragus in the  
arm.

in the lyft honde, and bare them <sup>1</sup>bothe tweyne in-to  
pryson in to hys lodgyng<sup>t</sup>, that euery man myght see.  
yet after charles sent other tweyne, and semblably they  
were bothe borne away wythoute ony wythstandyng or 4  
contradycetyon. whan Charles saw the feet of this man,  
he was al abasshed<sup>t</sup>, & durst nomore sende ony persone.  
For no man myght resyste hym. Roulland<sup>t</sup>, whyche  
was prynce of al thexcersyte of Charles, was euy<sup>l</sup> con- 8  
tente of thys that the geaunt was vyctoryous, & came  
to Charles and<sup>t</sup> presented hym self for to goo fyght wyth  
hym, but charles wold<sup>t</sup> not graunte hym. At the last,  
by force, he was constrayned<sup>t</sup> to gyue to hym lycence, 12  
& Roulland<sup>t</sup> made hym redy, and<sup>t</sup> cam tofore Feragus;  
but anone he was taken and reteyned wyth hys ryght  
hande lyke the other, and<sup>t</sup> the geaunt layed hym tofore  
hym on hys hors. whan Rolland sawe that he was 16  
taken & borne awaye soo vylaynsly he took a grete<sup>2</sup>  
courage in hym self, and<sup>t</sup> called the name of Ihesus to  
help, & to be in hys ayde, and tord<sup>n</sup> hym ayenst  
Feragus, and<sup>t</sup> took hym by the chynne, and<sup>t</sup> made to 20  
ouerthrowe fro hys hors, & fyl to the grounde, and  
rolland also. And after anone they arose, and eueryche  
took hys owne hors. Roulland, whyche was moche  
habyle and<sup>t</sup> courageous, drewe <sup>3</sup>hys swerde durandal 24  
and<sup>t</sup> came ayenst the geaunt, and<sup>t</sup> gaf soo grete a stroke  
on the Paynys hors that he carf hym a-sondre in the  
myddes, and the paynym fyl to the erthe. Feragus,  
beyng euy<sup>l</sup> contente for hys hors that was dede, took 28  
hys swerde for to smyte Rolland<sup>t</sup>, & had<sup>t</sup> slayne hym  
wyth the stroke yf he had<sup>t</sup> attayned<sup>t</sup> hym; but assone  
as he lyfte vp hys arme for to haue smyton Rolland<sup>t</sup>,  
Roulland<sup>t</sup> auau<sup>n</sup>cend<sup>t</sup> hym self and smote the geant vpon 32  
the arme, with whiche he helde hys swerde, suche a  
stroke, that hys swerde fyl to the grounde; wherof  
Feragus had<sup>t</sup> grete despyte and supposed to haue smyten

<sup>1</sup> l iij, back, col. 2.

<sup>2</sup> orig. gtete.

<sup>3</sup> l v.

hym wyth hys fyste, but he attayned rollandes hors in  
 suche wyse that he slewe hym. Thus were they bothe  
 two on fote, whyche wythoute swerd begynnen to fyght  
 4 wyth theyr fystes and wyth stones contynuelly, tyl the  
 houre of none: wherfore they bothe were wery, and  
 took tryews to-gyder by one acorde vnto the morne,  
 and that they shold fyght wythout spere and wythoute  
 8 hors: and here vpon eche of them went vn-to hys  
 lodgys.

Roland's horse is  
 killed.

Being both weary,  
 they leave off  
 fighting for the  
 day.

¶ How on the morne rolland' and' Feragus  
 foughten & dysputeden the fayth, and by  
 12 what <sup>1</sup>moyen Feragus was slayn by Roul-  
 land': capitulo xij

**T**He next day folowyng<sup>t</sup> erly, Rolland and Feragus  
 came to the felde of the bataylle. The geaunt  
 16 brought hys swerde moche grete, but it was nothyng  
 worth, for rolland made prouysyon of a grete staffe or  
 clubbe, ryzt longe wyth whyche he smote the geaunt;  
 but he myght nowher hurte hym. & also he smote  
 20 hym with grete stones and rounde, & coude in noo  
 wyse hurte ne entre in-to hys flesshe. And in this  
 maner they cessyd not to fyght tyl the houre of myd-  
 day. The geaunt was wery, and demaunded tryews of  
 24 Rolland for to slepe and reste hym a lytel. Rolland  
 was contente, and was so noble and so valyaunt, that  
 whan the geaunt was layed he went and fette a grete  
 stone and layed it vnder hys heed, to the ende that he  
 28 myght the better slepe and reste at hys ease. And  
 after that he had a lytel slepte, & that he was awaked,  
 he satte vp. And the noble Rolland came and sat by  
 hym and sayd to hym: "I meruaylle moche of thy  
 32 feat, How thou art so stronge and so terryble that thou  
 mayst not be hurt ne wounded in thy body by swerd,

Next morning the  
 duel is renewed.

Roland takes with  
 him only a great  
 staff.

At noon Ferragus  
 is tired, and  
 wishes to sleep a  
 while.

Roland makes  
 him comfortable.

He asks him how  
 it is he cannot  
 by any means  
 wound him.



Ferragus tells him that he is vulnerable only in the navel.

The Saracen inquires about the doctrines of Christianity.

Roland tells him,

and how that all that are baptised shall be saved.

Ferragus proposes to settle the question of religion by arms.

ne by staffe, ne by stones, ne in<sup>1</sup> <sup>2</sup>noo wyse." The geaunt, which spake spaynyssh, sayd to hym: "I may not be slayn, but by the nauell." whan Rolland herde that he made semblaunte that he vnderstood hym not. 4 After Feragus demaunded hym what was hys name, and of what lygnage he was. Rolland sayd to hym: "I am named Rolland, and am neuwe of charles, the ryght myghty Emperour." & Feragus asked of hym 8 what lawe he helde. Rolland answered: "I holde the cristen fayth by the grace of god." Feragus sayd: "what fayth is that, and who hath gyuen it?" to whyche Roulland answered: "It is trouthe y<sup>t</sup> after god 12 almy<sup>3</sup>ty had made heuen and erthe, and our fyrst fader adam, which was dysobeyssaunt to hys commaundements; the world was Jugged here in erthe wythoute hauyng of beatytude, ne of felycyte: and long tyme 16 after the sone of god, the second persone of the Trynyte, remembred hym of the valure of the soule, the whiche is gyuen to euery persone, and descended fro heuen and took our humanyte and suffred greuous passyon of 20 paynes. And he beyng in this world hath gyuen enseynements and stablyssed constytucyons for to saue vs, & pryncypally who byleueth in hym & in hys werkes parfyghtly, and that he be baptysed, After this 24 <sup>3</sup>mortel lyf he shal be saued in heuen: and, loo! this is the fayth that I holde, in the which I wyl deye." And after that Feragus had made to hym many questyons in the fayth, and that Rolland had answered to 28 hym honourably in euery poynte, Feragus said in this manere: "thou art crysten, and wylt mayntene the fayth of whyche thou hast spoken, and I am a paynym, & holde for my god Mahoun. who of vs twayne that 32 shal be vanquysshed & ouercome, late hys lawe be holde for nought and of noo valewe, and the fayth of hym that is vycctorious late it be holden for good &

<sup>1</sup> orig. im.

<sup>2</sup> l v, back.

<sup>3</sup> l v, back, col. 2.



- trewe, and that it be entyerly kepte and obserued.”
- The valyaunt Rolland<sup>d</sup> was contente ryght wel, & accepted<sup>d</sup> hys langage. thenne eche of them was redy to
- 4 fyght. Anone Rolland<sup>d</sup> came to hym, and<sup>d</sup> Feragus lyft vp hys arme for to smyte Rolland<sup>d</sup> moche malyciously, and<sup>d</sup> Roulland<sup>d</sup> sawe the stroke come vpon hym, and<sup>d</sup> for to voyde it he launced<sup>d</sup> hys staffe ayenst the swerde,
- 8 and wyth the stroke the staffe was cutte asondre; and<sup>d</sup> there-wythal the geaunt ranne to Rolland<sup>d</sup> and had<sup>d</sup> hym doun vnder hym. Rolland<sup>d</sup>, consyderynge that he myght not flee ne escape, he called<sup>d</sup> in hys hert deuoutely the
- 12 name of Ihesus, and yelded<sup>d</sup> hym to god<sup>d</sup> & <sup>1</sup>to the vyrgyn marye: & he anon reptysed<sup>d</sup> suche strengthe & myzt that he aroos a lytel, & myghtyly repugned<sup>d</sup> the geaunte, in suche manere that he brought the geaunte
- 16 vnder hym, and<sup>d</sup> thenne moche quyckly and subtylly he sete hande on hys swerde, and pryched hym in the nauyll therwyth, & anone after aroos, and fledde al that he myzt to thoost of charles. Anone as feragus felte
- 20 hym self hurt in that place, he cryed<sup>d</sup> so hye & lowde, that alle they that were in that place were aferd<sup>d</sup> & abasshed<sup>d</sup> of hys crye, & he sayd<sup>d</sup>: “O Mahommet, my god<sup>d</sup>, to whom I haue gyuen my fayth, come & socour
- 24 me, for thou seest wel that I dye, and tarye noo lenger.” with that hydous voys the sarasyns camen to hym and bare hym awaye in theyr armes the best wyse they coude vnto hys lodgys; and by that tyme rolland<sup>d</sup> was
- 28 comen alle hool and<sup>d</sup> sauf vnto Charles. And forthwyth the crysten men went Impetuously vpon the Sarasyns that bare Feragus, and<sup>d</sup> entred<sup>d</sup> in to the cyte, and so moche dyd<sup>d</sup> that the geaunt was dede, and<sup>d</sup> after came
- 32 in to the pryson valyauntly, and<sup>d</sup> took out Ogyer, Regnault, Constantyn, Hoel, and<sup>d</sup> the other prysonners.

Roland agrees.

The fight is renewed.

Roland's staff is cut in two,

but by a great effort he gets the giant under him

and stabs him in the navel.

The Saracens bear Ferragus away.

Charles assaults the town,

takes it and

releases his knights.

<sup>1</sup> 1 vi.

¶ How Charles went to Cor<sup>1</sup>dube, where the kyng of the same place and' the kyng' of Cybylle abode, for their destructyon :

ca.

xij 4

The kings of Cordova and Seville defy Charles,

who marches against them.

The Saracens, by a stratagem,

frighten the horses of the Frenchmen, and put them to flight.

Charles devises a remedy,

and the battle is renewed next day.

Of the standard of the Saracens.

AFTER thys aforesayd, the kyng<sup>1</sup> Corbude and the kyng<sup>1</sup> of Cybylle sent to Charles that he shold come to cordube for to fyght. Anone as charles knewe it, he came thyder wyth all hys puyssaunce. And whan they were nygh for tassemble in bataylle, the sarasyns maad<sup>2</sup> a moche subtyl and<sup>2</sup> wylde thyng. For tofore the Sarasyns that were on horsback they had ordeyned men on fote, whyche had<sup>2</sup> vysieres counter-<sup>12</sup> feyted<sup>2</sup> all black & rede, horned, and berded lyke deuylles, for to deceyue the crysten men; and eueryche of these foot men bare in hys honde a lytel belle. And at thentre of the bataylle they began to sowne and<sup>16</sup> make suche a bruyt, that assone as the horses of the crysten men sawe them so counterfayted and sowne their bellys, so Impetuously they began to flee, disreng & to be aferde, in suche maner that no man might holde<sup>20</sup> theyr horses, but by force they must flee and<sup>2</sup> wythdrawe them. Charles deuysed<sup>2</sup> a remedye, and on the morne he blynfelde the horses and couerd<sup>2</sup> theyr eyen wyth clothes, And<sup>2</sup> stopped<sup>2</sup> theyr eres, to the ende that they<sup>24</sup> shold<sup>2</sup> not see ne<sup>2</sup> here the sarasyns dysguysed<sup>2</sup> & countrefayted<sup>2</sup>. And whan they came to bataylle in this manere they spared<sup>2</sup> not, but slewe down ryght, & put the sarasyns to deth tyl mydday; but yet they were<sup>28</sup> not al vaynquysshed<sup>2</sup>, For they had<sup>2</sup> a carte myghty and grete for to resyste and<sup>2</sup> make grete empresshement to theyr enemyes. And<sup>2</sup> this engyne was drawen wyth viij oxen in the warre, & ther-vpon<sup>3</sup> stode on hye the<sup>32</sup> standard of theyr ensygne. & theyr custome was that on payne of deth noo persone, shold retorne, ne goo

<sup>1</sup> 1 vj, col. 2.

<sup>2</sup> 1 vi, back.

<sup>3</sup> orig. thre-vpon.

aback for no thyng as long as the standard<sup>d</sup> stode vpryght. herof Charles was enformed<sup>d</sup>, wherfore moche puyssauntly he rode thurgh the sarasyns tyl he came to  
 4 the standard<sup>d</sup>, and with Joyouse hys swerde he smote it asondre: and<sup>d</sup> anone as the sarasyns sawe that they fledde, & mony of y<sup>e</sup> paynymys were slayn and<sup>d</sup> dede.  
 & on the morne after the towne was delyuered vnto  
 8 Charles by the lord of the toun,<sup>1</sup> whyche coude not resyste hym, & charles was content to lete hym haue hys lyf yf he wold be baptysed<sup>d</sup>, and<sup>d</sup> also the toun for to holde it of hym and<sup>d</sup> none otherwyse. And<sup>d</sup> thenne  
 12 charles ordeyned<sup>d</sup> in spayne certayn of hys barons to kepe it, in suche wyse, that none durst assaylle it, ne make to it warre. For he was <sup>2</sup>alwaye vycoryous of his enemyes by the puyssaunce that he ledde, and<sup>d</sup> also  
 16 by dyscrecyon of hys persone, and<sup>d</sup> pryncypally by the grace of god, whyche faylled<sup>d</sup> not in him and in hys subgettes.

Charles himself cuts down the standard, and the Saracens flee.

The town is taken, and all who will not become Christians put to death.

¶ How the chyrche of Saynt Iames was  
 20 halowed by tharchebyssshop Turpyn, & the chyrches of spayne subgettes therto, and<sup>d</sup> of other pryncypal chyrches: capitulo xiiij

24 **C**harles the noble emperour, after that he had put and<sup>d</sup> sette good<sup>d</sup> estate and<sup>d</sup> good<sup>d</sup> warde in spayne, he went to saynt Iames wyth fewe people. And<sup>d</sup> whan he was there, suche cristen men as he there fond he rewarded them, & dyd to them moche good<sup>d</sup>,  
 28 and<sup>d</sup> he punysshed suche as were apostates, & other maner of peple, suche as he fonde vntryewe and<sup>d</sup> dysobeysaunte to holy chyrche, he lete slee and put to deth, or he sente theym in to fraunce to do penaunce, and  
 32 bannysshed them. And<sup>d</sup> thenne thorough al the cytees of spayne he ordeyned<sup>d</sup> byssshops, relygyous, and<sup>d</sup> other

Charles goes to St. James, and makes regulations for the church:

appoints bishops and monasteries,

<sup>1</sup> orig. tonn.

<sup>2</sup> 1 vj, back, col. 2.



and ordains that all the bishops of Spain shall be subject to the bishop of St. James.

Turpin consecrates the Church of St. James.

Charles appoints the payment of tithes to the church,

and orders that all consecrations and coronations shall take place there.

The body of St. John is deposited on the right side, and that of St. James on the left.

peple of the chyrche, & made many constytucyons,<sup>1</sup> synodals, and other ordynaunces vp-on the chyrche, and vpon other peple. And in thonour of saynt <sup>2</sup>Iames he made constytucyons, and Instytuled that al the bysshops, <sup>4</sup> prynces, and kynges dwellyng in spayne, shold all be subget to the bysshop of saynt Iames, and al they shold owe to that chyrche fydelite, wyth al the peple of the londe of galyce. And accordyng to the same the arche- 8. bisshop Turpyn wryteth in thys manere: "And I, Turpyn, archebysshop of Raynes, was in the same place, where the ordenaunces aforesayd were maad. And I, accompanied wyth ix honourable bysshops & of good <sup>12</sup> lyf, at the requeste and postulacyon of Charles in the moneth of Iuyl, haue halowed, dedycated, blessyd, and consecrated the chyrche of saynt Iames, & the autler of the same. And after thenne the kynge Charles gaf al <sup>16</sup> the londe of spayne & of galyce to that chyrche, And after ordeyned y<sup>t</sup> every hous of spayn and galyce shold gyue to the chyrche of saynt Iames iiij pens of the money corraunt for annuel<sup>3</sup> trybute. And by the <sup>20</sup> moyen therof they shold be franke and free of seruytude. And for the honour of saynt Iames he estab- lysshed that the chyrche of the sayd place shold be sayd apostolyque for thexaltacion of the place. And <sup>24</sup> more ouer, that the bysshopryches and specyal dygnyte of alle spayne & of galyce, <sup>4</sup> and semblably the coronacions of kynges of al the contre, shold be crowned & sacred by the bysshop of saynt Iames, al in lyke wyse <sup>28</sup> as it hath been tofore doon in Asye in the place of ephesym, for the honour of holy Saynt Iohan theuangelyst, brother of saynt Iames, and sone of Zebedee. & thus Saynt Iohan was lodged in the ryght syde, And <sup>32</sup> Saynt Iames, hys brother, in the lyfte syde. Thenne was accomplished the peticyon of their moder and of

<sup>1</sup> orig. constytucyous.

<sup>2</sup> 1 vij.

<sup>3</sup> orig. amuel.

<sup>4</sup> 1 vij, col. 2.



1 hyr two sones, gloryouse frendes of our lord Ihesu  
 Cryst, whan she desyred that hyr two sones shold sytte,  
 one on the ryght syde, and that other on the lyfte,  
 4 whyche was thenne accomplyssed and termyned. &  
 therefore in the world ben thre syeges and chyrches  
 pryncypal, whyche crysten men by ryght owen texalte,  
 deffende and mayntene wyth all theyr myght. ¶ That  
 8 is to wete, the chyrche of Rome, The chyrche of Ephe-  
 sym of saynt Iohan the euangelyst, And the chyrche of  
 Saynt Iames in galyce. And yf ony demaunded the  
 cause of these thre places and syeges pryncipal of cris-  
 12 tyente, the cause is ynough apparenthe. These thre  
 places ben honoured pryncypally by cause the synners  
 may haue theyr recours to them for tamende theyr  
 lyues, and put lawaye theyr synnes, & obteyne pardon  
 16 and forgyuenes. Fyrst these iij appostles, that is to say,  
 Saynt Peter, Saynt Iohan, & saynt James, haue pre-  
 ceded all the other in the companye of Ihesu Cryst  
 whan he was in thys world, & haue ben called to hys  
 20 secretes, and that haue moost contynued wyth hym.  
 Thus by good ryght, the places in whyche they haue  
 conversed and contynued theyr lyues, and where theyr  
 bodyes resten, oughten to be honoured and to be  
 24 habundaunt in grace. ¶ Pryncypally, saynt Peter was  
 the fyrst and moost hye, & preched at Rome, and there  
 was martred & buried; Therfor the chyrche of Rome  
 is enhaunced & exalted aboue al other chyrches. &  
 28 after saynt Iohan, whyche sawe the secretes of god in  
 his souper, & in ephesym he made the gospel '**In  
 principio erat verbum & cetera,**' And by his holy  
 prechyng hath conuerted thynfydellys to the holy  
 32 crysten fayth. And also saynt James, whyche had  
 grete payne in spayne and in galyce, for the honour of  
 god as wel for hys holy lyf, for hys myracles, as for hys  
 marterdom and hys sepulture, by good ryght ought the  
 memorye of them to be thorough the vnyuersal world."

Thus the three  
 chief churches in  
 the world are  
 those of Rome,  
 Ephesus,  
 and St. James,

because St. Peter,  
 St. John, and St.  
 James were the  
 chief of the  
 Apostles.

The church of  
 Rome is the head,  
 because there St.  
 Peter is buried.

Ephesus is next,  
 because there St.  
 John wrote his  
 Gospel,

and the church of  
 St. James is third.

<sup>1</sup>¶ The second' parte of the thyrd book conteyneth x chapytres, & speketh of the treason made by ganellon, and' of the deth of the pyeres of Fraunce. 4

¶ How the treason was comprysed' by Ganelon, and of the deth of crysten men, & how ganellon is repreuyd by thauctour: capitulo primo 8

Marsurius and Bellegandus, kings of Saragossa, pretend to be ready to submit to Charles.

IN this tyme were in Cezarye two kynges sarasyns moche myghty, that one was named marfurrius, and that other bellegandus, his brother, whyche were sente by thadmyral of babyllonne in to spayne, the 12 whyche were vnder kynge Charles, & made to hym synge of loue and of subgectyon, and went by hys commaundement holyly and vnder the shadowe of decepcyon. Themperour, seying that they were not crysten, and for 16 to gete seynourye ouer them, he sente for ganellon, in whome he had fyaunce, that they shold doo baptise them, or ellys that they shold sende to hym trybute in sygne of fydelite of their contre. Ganellon, the traytre, 20 went thyder and dyd to them the message, and after that he had with them many deceyuable wordes, they sente hym ageyn to charles wyth xxx hors laden with gold & syluer, wyth clothes of sylke, <sup>2</sup>and other 24 rychesses, & iiij hondred hors laden with swetewyn, for to gyue to the men of Warre for to drynke; & also they sente, aboue thys, to them a thousand fayr wymmen sarasyns, in grete poynte and yonge of age: And al thys 28 in sygne of loue and of obeyssaunce. and after they gaf to ganellon xx hors charged wyth gold and syluer, sylkes, and other precyosytees, that by hys moyen he shold brynge in to theyr hondes the compaignie of 32 charles yf he myght doo it.

Charles sends Ganelon, requiring them to be baptized and pay tribute.

The Saracens send presents to Charles, and induce Ganelon, by

bribes, to promise to betray the French army.

<sup>1</sup> 1 vij, back, col. 2.

<sup>2</sup> 1 viij.

Thenne ganellon was surprysed wyth thys fals  
 auaryce, whych consumeth alle the swetenes of charyte  
 that is in persones, for to haue gold<sup>r</sup> or syluer & other  
 4 rychesses, & made a pacte and<sup>r</sup> couenaunte wyth the  
 sarasyns for to betraye hys lord<sup>r</sup>, hys neyghbours, &  
 crysten brethern, & sware that he wold not faylle them  
 of thenterpryse; but I merueylle moche of ganellon,  
 8 which made thys treason, wythoute to haue<sup>1</sup> cause  
 coloured<sup>r</sup> ne Juste.

Ganelon bargains  
 to betray Charles  
 and his fellow-  
 countrymen.

¶ O wycked<sup>r</sup> Ganellon, thou were comen of noblesse,  
 & thou hast doon a werke vylaynnous: thou were ryche  
 12 & a grete lord<sup>r</sup>, and for money thou hast betrayed<sup>r</sup> thy  
 mayster. Emonge alle other thou were chosen for to  
 goo to y<sup>e</sup> sarasyns for grete trust: emonge al the other,  
 and for the fydelite that was thought in <sup>2</sup>the, thou  
 16 hast consented<sup>r</sup> to trayson, and<sup>r</sup> allone hast commysed<sup>r</sup>  
 Infydelyte. Fro whens cometh thyn Inyquyte, but of  
 a fals wylle plunged<sup>r</sup> in thabysme of auaryce? Thy  
 naturel souerayn lord<sup>r</sup>, Roulland<sup>r</sup>, Olyuer, & the other,  
 20 what haue they doon to the? yf thou haue a wycked  
 hate ayenst one persone, wherfore consentest thou to  
 destroye thynnocentes? was there noo persone that thou  
 louedest whan to al crysten men thou hast ben traytre?  
 24 was there ony reason in the, whan thou hast ben capy-  
 tayn ayenst the fayth? what auayleth the prowesse that  
 thou hast made in tyme passed, whan thyn ende shew-  
 eth that thou hast doo wyckednes? O fals auaryce, and<sup>r</sup>  
 28 ardeur of concupiscence! he is not the fyrst that by the  
 is comen to myscheyf. by the Adam was to god<sup>d</sup> dys-  
 obeysaunt, and<sup>r</sup> the noble cyte of Troye the graunde put  
 to vtter ruyne and destructyon. Thus in thys manere  
 32 ganellon brought gold<sup>r</sup> and<sup>r</sup> syluer, wyn, wymmen, and  
 other rychesses, as tofore he had enterprysed<sup>r</sup>. Whan  
 charles sawe al this, he thought that al way doon in  
 good<sup>d</sup> entent and<sup>r</sup> equyte and<sup>r</sup> wythout barat. The grete

The author's re-  
 proach to Ganelon  
 for his treachery,

for which he had  
 no reason but  
 avarice,

which had ruined  
 so many.

Ganelon presents  
 the presents to  
 Charles,

who falls into the  
 trap.

<sup>1</sup> *orig.* hane.

<sup>2</sup> l viij, col. 2.



He takes the gold  
and silver himself,  
and gives the  
wine to his  
knights.

Charles, per-  
suaded by Gane-  
lon, sends his  
homewards.

Marsurius and  
Bellegandus lay  
an ambush in  
Roncesvalles,

which falls on the  
French.

The fight lasts all  
day.

At night the  
French soldiers  
get drunk on the  
wine.

Then 30,000 Sara-  
cens fall on them,

lordes & knyghtes toke the wyn for them, and charles  
took onely the gold and syluer, & the moyen people  
took the hethen wymmen. Themperour <sup>1</sup>gaf consente  
to the wordes of ganellon, For he spake moche wysely, 4  
and wrought in suche wyse that charles and alle hys  
hoost passed the porte of Cezarye; for ganellon dyd  
hym to vnderstonde that the kynges aforesayd wold  
become crysten and be baptyse<sup>d</sup>, and swere fydelite to 8  
the emperour; And anone sent his peple tofore, and  
he came after in the ryere warde, & had sente Roulland  
& Olyuer & the moost specyal of hys subgettes wyth a  
thousand fyghtyng men, and were in Rounceyuale. 12  
Thenne the kynges Marfuryus & Bellegandus, after  
the counceyl of ganellon, wyth fyfty thousand sarasyns  
were hydde in a wode, abydyng & awaytyng the frenssh  
men, & there they abode ij dayes and two nyghtys, & 16  
deuyded theyr men in two partyes. In the first they  
put xx M sarasynz, and in that other they put xxx  
thousand sarasyns. ¶ In the vaunte garde of charles  
were xx thousand crysten men, whyche anone were 20  
assaylled wyth xx thousand sarasyns, and maad warre  
in suche wyse that they were constrayned to withdrawe  
them; For fro the mornynge vnto the houre of tyerce  
they seaced not to fyght and smyte on them, wherfore 24  
the crysten men were moche very, and had nede to  
reste theym. Neuertheles, they <sup>2</sup>dronken wel of the  
good swete wyn of the sarasyns moche largely, And  
after many of them that were dronke went & laye by 28  
the wymmen sarasyns, & also wyth other that they  
had brought oute of fraunce, wherfore the wylle of god  
was that they shold al be dede, to thende that their  
martyrdom & passyon myght be the cause of theyr 32  
saucyon & purgyng of their synne. For anone after  
the thyrty thousand sarasyns cam that were in the  
second batayl vpon the frenssh men soo Impetuovsly

<sup>1</sup> 1 viij, back.

<sup>2</sup> 1 viij, back, col. 2.



that they were al dede and slayn, Except Roulland, and slay all except Roland, Thierry, and Baldwin.  
 bauldouyn, & Thyerry. The other were slayn and dede  
 with speres: somme slayn, somme rosted, and other  
 4 quartred, and submyse to many tormentes. And whan  
 thys dyscomfyture was doon, Ganellon was with charles,  
 and also tharchebyssshop Turpyn, whych knewe nothyng  
 of this werke so sorouful, sauf onely the traytre, whyche  
 8 supposed that they alle had be destroyed and put to  
 deth. ¶ Of the languysshe that was comynge to Charles,  
 he wyste not, how sone it was comyng<sup>1</sup>.

¶ Of the deth of kyng Marfurius, and' how  
 12 Roulland' was hurt wyth foure speres mor-  
 tally after that al his peple were slayn :  
 capitulo : ij

<sup>1</sup> **T**He bataylle, as I haue sayd tofore, was moche  
 16 sharpe. whan Rolland, whyche was moche wery,  
 retorne he recountred in hys waye a sarasyn  
 moche fyers & blacke as boyled pytche, and anone he  
 took hym at thentre of a wode & bonde hym to a  
 20 tree straitely, wythoute doynge to hym ony more harme,  
 and after took and rode vpon an hylle for to see the  
 hoost of the sarasyns, And the crysten men that were  
 fledde : & saw grete quantyte of paynmys. Wherefore  
 24 anone he sowned and blewe his horne of yuorye moche  
 lowde. And wyth that noyse cam to hym an hundred  
 crysten men wel arayed and habylled wythoute moo.  
 And whan they were come to hym he retorne to the  
 28 sarasyn that was bounde to the tree, And Roulland  
 helde hys swerd ouer hym, sayeng that he shold deye,  
 yf he shewed to hym not clerely the kyng Marfuryus,  
 & yf he so wold do he shold not deye. The sarasyn  
 32 was contente, and sware, that he shold gladly do it for  
 to saue his lyf; & soo he brought hym wyth hym vnto

Roland captures  
 a Saracen,  
 whom he ties to  
 a tree,

and afterwards  
 compels to point  
 out to him Mar-  
 surius.

The Saracen  
points out Mar-  
surius,

whom Roland  
kills,

The Saracens fly  
before him.

All the French  
are killed, except  
three.

Bellegandus and  
his men fly.

the place where they sawe the paynims, and shewed to  
Rolland Whyche was the kyng, whyche rode vpon a  
rede hors, & other certeyn tokenes. And in thys poynt  
Roulland, reconfermed in hys strengthe, trustyng<sup>1</sup> 4  
veryly in the myght of god and in the name of Ihesus,  
as a lyon entred in to the bataylle, & emonge them he  
encountred a sarasyn whyche was gretter than ony  
of the other, & gaf to hym so grete a stroke wyth 8  
durandal vpon the hede that he clefte hym & hys hors  
in two partes, that the one parte went on one syde &  
that other on the other syde. wherfore the sarasyns  
were soo troubled and abasshed of the myght and puy- 12  
saunce of Rolland, that they alle fledde tofore hym, &  
thenne abode the kynge Marfuryus wyth a fewe folke.  
Thenne rolland sawe thys kyng, And wythoute fere came  
to hym and put hym to deth Incontynent. And alle 16  
the hondred crysten men that were wyth Roulland in  
thys recountre were dolorously slayn & put to deth,  
Except onely baulduyn and Thyerry, whyche for fere  
fledde in to the wode. But after that Rolland had 20  
slayn kyng Marfuryus he was sore oppressyd, & in  
suche wyse deteyned that wyth foure grete speres he  
was smyton and wounded mortally, & beten with  
stoones, and hurte wyth dartes and other shotte mor- 24  
tally. And not withstondyng these greuous hurte &  
woundes, yet, maulgre al the sarasyns, he sprange out  
of the bataylle, and saued hym self the best wyse he  
myght. <sup>2</sup>Bellegandus, broder of Marfuryus, doubtyng 28  
that helpe & ayde shold come to the crysten people,  
retorned in to another contreye<sup>3</sup>, wyth hys peple moche  
hastely. And themperour Charles had thenne passed  
the montayne of Roncyuale, and knewe nothyng of 32  
these thynges afore sayd, ne what had be doon.

<sup>1</sup> m j, col. 2.

<sup>2</sup> m j, back.

<sup>3</sup> orig. coutreye.

¶ How Rolland deyed' holyly, after many martyres & orysones made to god ful deuoutely,  
& of the complaynte maad' for hys swerde

4 durandal : capitulo iiij

**R**olland the valyaunt, and champyon of the crysten  
fayth, was moche sorouful of the crysten men, by  
cause they had noo socours; he was moche wery,  
8 gretely abasshed, & moche affebled in hys persone, for  
he had lost moche of his blode by his foure mortal  
woundes, of whyche the leste of them was suffysaunt  
for hym to haue deyed, and he had grete payne to gete  
12 hym oute fro the sarasyns for to haue a lytel com-  
memoracion of god tofore or the soule shold departe  
fro his body. so moche he enforced hym, that he came  
to the fote of a montayne, nygh to the porte of Cezarye,  
16 and brought hym self nygh to a rocke ryght by Ron-  
cyuale, vnder a tree in a fayr medowe. whan he sat  
down <sup>1</sup>on the grounde he behelde his swerde, the best  
that euer was, named durandal, whyche is as moche to  
20 say as gyuyng an hard stroke, whyche was ryght fayr  
& rychely made: the handle was of fyn beryle, shynyng  
meruallously; on hye it had a fayre crosse of gold, in  
the which was wryton the name of Ihesus. It was so  
24 good & fyn, that sonner shold the arme faylle than the  
swerde. he took it out of y<sup>e</sup> shethe & sawe it shyne  
moche bryght, and by cause it shold chaunge his maister  
he had moche sorowe in his hert, and wepyng, he sayd  
28 in thys maner pytously: ¶ "O swerd of valure, the  
fayrest that euer was, thou were neuer but fayr, Ne  
neuer fonde I the but good: thou art long by mesure;  
Thou hast be so moche honoured, that alwaye thou  
32 barest with the the name of the blessyd Ihesus, sauyour  
of the world, whyche hath endowed the wyth the power  
of god. who may comprehend thy valure? Alas!

Roland, although  
greatly exhausted  
by loss of blood,

struggles nearly  
to Saragossa,

where he lies  
down.

He looks with  
grief on Durandal,

and weeping,  
bids it farewell.

Roland laments  
over his sword  
Durandal.

Determined that  
no Saracen shall  
ever have it,

tries to break it  
on a rock,

but Durandal  
cleaves the rock  
without harm to  
itself.

Roland blows his  
ivory horn so hard  
that it breaks,

and the veins of  
his neck burst.

Charles hears the  
horn and recog-  
nizes it,

who shal haue the after me? who someuer hath the  
shal neuer be vaynquysshed, alwaye he shal haue good<sup>t</sup>  
fortune. Alas! what shal I more ouer say for the,  
good<sup>t</sup> swerde? many sarasyns haue ben destroyed by 4  
the; thynfydels and myscreauntes haue ben slayn by  
the; the name of god<sup>t</sup> is exalted<sup>t</sup> by the; by the is  
made the path of <sup>1</sup>sauement. O, how many tymes  
haue I by the auenged<sup>t</sup> thyniurye made to god<sup>t</sup>! O, 8  
how many men haue I smyton and<sup>t</sup> cutte a-sondre by  
the myddle! O, my swerde, whyche hast ben my com-  
fort and<sup>t</sup> my Joye, whych neuer hurtest persone that  
myght escape fro deth! O, my swerde, yf ony persone 12  
of noo value shold<sup>t</sup> haue the & I knewe it, I shold<sup>t</sup> deye  
for sorowe." After that Rolland<sup>t</sup> had wepte ynough, he  
had fere that somme paynym myght fynde it after his  
deth, wherfore he concluded<sup>2</sup> in hym self to breke it, 16  
and<sup>t</sup> toke it & smote it vpon a rocke wyth alle hys  
myght iij tymes wythoute hurtyng<sup>t</sup> ony thyng the  
swerde, and clefted the rocke to therthe, and coude in no  
wyse breke the swerde. Whan he sawe the facyon and 20  
coude do nomore therto, he took his horne, whyche was  
of yuorye moche rychely made, and sowned & blewe it  
moche strongely, to the ende that yf there were ony  
crysten men hydde in the wodes or in the waye of 24  
theyr retournyng<sup>t</sup>, that they shold<sup>t</sup> come to hym tofore  
they wente ony ferther, and<sup>t</sup> to fore he rendred<sup>t</sup> hys  
sowle. Thenne, seyng<sup>t</sup> that none came, he sowned<sup>t</sup> it  
ageyn by soo grete force and<sup>t</sup> vertu, and<sup>t</sup> so Impetuously, 28  
that the horne roof a sondre in the myddle, and<sup>t</sup> the  
vaynes of hys necke braken a sondre, and<sup>t</sup> the <sup>3</sup>synewes  
of his body stracheden. And<sup>t</sup> that noys or voys by the  
grace of god<sup>t</sup> came to the eeres of Charles, whyche was 32  
eyght myle fro hym. The Emperour, heeryng the  
horne, he knewe wel that Rolland<sup>t</sup> had<sup>t</sup> blownen it, and  
wold haue returned<sup>t</sup> ageyn, but Ganellon, the traytre,

<sup>1</sup> m ij.

<sup>2</sup> orig. cenclosed.

<sup>3</sup> m ij, col. 2.



- whyche knewe wel alle the fayt, dystourned<sup>d</sup> hym, in  
sayeng<sup>t</sup> that Rolland<sup>d</sup> had<sup>d</sup> blowen his horne for somme  
wyld beest that he chaced<sup>d</sup> for his playsyr ; For ofte  
4 tymes he wold blowe hys horne for lytel thyng, and  
that he shold<sup>d</sup> not doubte of nothyng<sup>t</sup>. ¶ And thus he  
dyd<sup>d</sup> the kyng to vnderstonde that he byleued<sup>d</sup> hym,  
and<sup>d</sup> made none other semblaunte. Neuertheles, Rol-  
8 land, leyng<sup>t</sup> in thys sorowe, he peased<sup>d</sup> hys woundes also  
wel as he myght, and<sup>d</sup> stratched<sup>d</sup> hymself on the grasse  
to the fresshenes for to forgete hys thurst, whyche was  
ouer grete. but Ganelon per-  
suades him that  
Roland is hunt-  
ing.
- 12 ¶ Here vpon Baulduyn, hys brother, came vnto hym, Baldwin comes to  
him.  
whyche was moche heuy and<sup>d</sup> sorouful for hys brother  
Roulland<sup>d</sup>, whyche was in that necessitye. And<sup>d</sup> anone  
Roulland<sup>d</sup> sayd<sup>t</sup> to hym, “my frende and<sup>d</sup> my brother,  
16 I haue so grete thurst that I must nedes deye yf I haue  
not drynke to aswage my thurst. Roland asks for  
water, but Bald-  
win can find none,
- ¶ Baulduyn had<sup>d</sup> grete payne in goyng<sup>t</sup> here and<sup>d</sup> there,  
and<sup>d</sup> coude fynde no water, and came to hym ageyn &  
20 sayde he coude fynde none ; and<sup>d</sup> in grete anguysshe he  
lepte<sup>2</sup> on Roullandes hors, and<sup>d</sup> rode for to fetch Charles,  
For he knewe wel that rolland<sup>d</sup> was nyghe hys deth.  
Anone after came to hym Thyerry, duc of Ardayne,  
24 whyche wepte vpon Rolland<sup>d</sup> so contynuelly that he myzt  
not speke. but with grete payne Rolland confessyd hym  
and<sup>d</sup> dysposed<sup>d</sup> hym of hys conseyence. neuertheles, that  
same day Rolland<sup>d</sup> had<sup>d</sup> receyued<sup>d</sup> the body of our lord,  
28 For the custome was that the subgettes of Charles that  
day whyche they shold<sup>d</sup> fyght were confessyd & comuned  
wythoute fayllyng by men of the chyrche, which alway  
were wyth them. Rolland, whyche knew hys ende by  
32 entyer contemplacyon, hys eyen lyfte vp to heuen, &  
hys hondes Ioyned<sup>d</sup>, al stratched<sup>d</sup> in the medowe, began  
to say thus : “Fayre lord<sup>d</sup> god<sup>d</sup>, my maker, my redemour,  
sone of the glorious moder of comforte, thou knowest  
and rides off to  
fetch Charles.  
Roland confesses  
himself,  
and knowing his  
end is near,  
commends him-  
self to God,

<sup>1</sup> m ij, back.

<sup>2</sup> orig. lefte

myn entency[o]n, thou knowest what I haue doon for  
 praying for mercy the bounte that is in the. by thy grete mercy of  
 whyche thou art enuyronned, by the grace whyche in  
 through the merits of Christ, the haboundeth, by the meryte of thy passyon, holy 4  
 and bytter, with a good and humble hert I requyre the  
 y<sup>t</sup> tofore the thys day my faul<sup>l</sup>tes, synnes, and ygnor-  
 aunces may be pardouned to me, and take noo regarde  
 to the trespasses that I haue doon to the; but beholde 8  
 that I deye for the, and in the fayth that thou hast  
 ordeyned. remembre that thou hengest on the tree of  
 the crosse for the synnars, and so as thou hast redemed  
 me, I beseche the that I be not loste. Alas! my maker 12  
 god<sup>d</sup> omny<sup>n</sup>potent, wyth good wylle I departed<sup>d</sup> oute of  
 my contreye for to defende thy name, and for to mayn-  
 tene crystendom. ¶ Thou knowest that I haue suffred<sup>d</sup>  
 many anguysshes of hungre, of thirst, of hete, of colde, 16  
 & many mortal woundes. And day and nyght to the,  
 my god, I yelde me culpable; I mystrust not thy mercy.  
 thou art pyetous; thou art comen for the synnars; thou  
 pardonest marye magdelene and the good theef on the 20  
 crosse, by cause they retorned vnto the; they were  
 synnars as I am; lyke as they dyd<sup>d</sup> I crye the mercy,  
 & better yf I coude saye it. thou byheldest how Abra-  
 ham was obeyssaunt to the of hys sone ysaac, wherfor 24  
 he ferde moche the better; byholde me how I am obe-  
 dyent to the commaundements of the chyrche: I byleue  
 in the, I loue the aboue all other, I loue my neyghbour.  
 ¶ O good<sup>d</sup> lord<sup>d</sup>, I beseche the to pardoune & forgyue 28  
 alle theym that thys day ben deed<sup>d</sup> in <sup>2</sup>my companye,  
 & that they may be saued<sup>d</sup>. Also, my maker, I requyre  
 the to take hede of the pacyence of Job, for which he  
 was moche the better, that I deye here for thirst, and 32  
 am allone. I am wounded mortally, and may not helpe  
 my self, and take in pacyence alle the sorowe that I  
 suffre, and am therwyth content whan it pleaseth the.

and for the dan-  
 gers and troubles  
 he has gone  
 through for the  
 Christian religion.

He prays for the  
 souls of his com-  
 rades.

<sup>1</sup> m ij, back, col. 2.

<sup>2</sup> m iij.

as al thys is trewe, pardone me, comferte my spyryte,  
receyue my soule, and brynge me to reste perdurable."

Whan Rolland had prayed thus, he sette hys handes  
4 on hys body, holdyng hys flesshe, and after sayd thre  
tymes, ¶ "**Et in carne mea videbo deum saluatorem**  
**meum,**" and after layed his handes on hys eyen, and  
sayd, "**Et oculi isti conspecturi sunt,** In thys  
8 flesshe that I holde I shal see my sauour, and these  
eyen shal beholde hym;" and after he sayd that he  
sawe thynges celestyal, whyche the eyen of mankynde  
myght not see, ne the eeres here, ne the hert thynke,  
12 the glorie whyche god hath maad redy to them that  
loue hym; and in sayeng, "**In manus tuas, domine,**  
**commendo spiritum meum,**" he layed hys armes vpon  
hys body in maner of a crosse, & gaf and rendred hys  
16 soule to god the xvj kalendes of Juyl.

Then he crosses  
his hands on his  
breast,

and saying, "Into  
thy hands I com-  
mend my spirit,"  
expires.

¶ Of the vysyon of the deth of Roulland',  
and' of the sorowe of Charles, and' how  
he complayned' hym pyetously, & other  
20 maters: capitulo iiij

"**T**He day that Roulland the marter rendred hys  
soule vnto god, I, Turpyn, archebysshop of  
Raynes, was in the valeye of Rounceyuale, tofore  
24 charles the Emperour, and sayd masse for the soules  
whyche were passed oute of thys world. And as I  
was in the secrete of the masse I was rauysshed, and  
herde the aungellys of heuen synge and make grete  
28 melodye. And I wyst not what it myght be, ne wher-  
fore they soo dyd. And as I sawe the aungellys mounte  
in to heuen on hye, I sawe comyng a grete legyon of  
knyghtes, alle blacke, ageynst me, the whyche bere a  
32 praye, wherof they maad grete noyse and desraye.  
whan they were tofore me in passyng, I sayd to them

"The day that  
Roland died, I,  
Turpin,

was celebrating  
mass before  
Charles,

and in the  
'secret' I saw a  
vision of black  
spirits passing  
with great noise,

and I asked them  
who they were,

and they told me  
of the deaths of  
Marsurius and  
Roland.

And I told the  
vision to Charles,

and, while I was  
speaking, came  
Baldwin, and told  
us of the slaughter  
of our men.

And Charles  
ordered the army  
to return,

and he himself in  
front found  
Roland dead,

and he wept and  
lamented over  
him bitterly.

and demaunded who they<sup>1</sup> were, & what they bare.  
One of the deuylls ansuerd & sayd, 'we bere the  
kyng Marfuryus in to helle, for long a-goon he hath  
wel deserued it. And Roulland, your trompette, wyth 4  
Mychel thaungel & many other in his companye, is  
brouzt in to Joye perdurable to heuen.' And as the  
masse was fynysshed I<sup>2</sup> recounted to charles the vysyon  
whyche I had seen, how thangellys of heuen bare the 8  
soule of Roulland in to paradys, & the deuylls bare  
the soule of a sarasyn in to helle. Thus, as I sayd  
these wordes, balduyn, whyche rode on Rollandes hors,  
cam hastely and said to charles how the crysten men 12  
were dede & bytrayed, and how Rolland was hurte,  
and in what estate he had lefte hym. Assone as he  
had tolde thys, the crye was made thurgh thoost that  
euery man shold retorne backe, & there was a grete 16  
bruyt. But themperour Charles, to whome thys mater  
touched at the hert more than to ony other, auaunced  
hym for to goo thyder; and whan he came he fonde  
Rolland expyred, hys hondes in crosse vpon hys vysage 20  
al stratched. And anone Charles fyl down vpon hym,  
and began to wepe moche tenderly, smytyng hym on  
his vysage, rendyng his clothes, & tormented hys body,  
& myght not speke a grete whyle. whan he was re- 24  
torned to hym self by ardeur of dylectyon and excercyte  
of sorowe, he sayd in thys wyse: 'O comferte of my  
body, honour of frenssh men, suerd of Iustyce, spere  
that myght not bowe, hawberck that myght not be 28  
broken, helme of helthe, resemblyng to Iudas<sup>3</sup> macha-  
beus in prowesse, samblant to sampson<sup>4</sup> in strengthe, &  
to Absalon in beaulte! O ryght dere neuw, fayr &  
wyse, in batayl ryal! O destroyer of the sarasyns, de- 32  
fendour of crysten men, walle of clergye, staffe to  
wydowes & of poure orphelyns, Releuer of chyrches,

<sup>1</sup> orig. w hothey.

<sup>2</sup> m iij, back.

<sup>3</sup> orig. Indas

<sup>4</sup> m iij, back, col. 2.



tonge of trouthe, Mouthe wythout lesyng', trewe in al  
 Iugement, prynce of bataylle, conduytour of the frendes  
 of god, Augmentour of the crysten fayth, & byloued  
 4 of euery persone! Alas! why haue I brought the in  
 to a straunge contreye? wherfor am I not dede with<sup>1</sup>  
 the? O Roulland, wherfor leuest thou me heuy &  
 sorouful? helas! caytyf that I am, what shal I doo?  
 8 Alas! sorouful, whyther shal I goo? I praye to almyghty  
 god that he conserue the; I requyre thangellis of heuen  
 that they be in thy companye; I requyre the marters,  
 of whom thou art of the nombre, y<sup>t</sup> they wyl receuye  
 12 the in to the Ioye perdurable. alway I shal remembre  
 the wepyng, alway I shal fele thy departyng, as dauid  
 dyd of natan & of absalon. Alas! Rolland, thou goost  
 in to lyf & Ioye perdurable, & leuest me in thys world  
 16 sorouful. Thou art in heuen in consolacion, & I am in  
 wepynges & tribulacions. Alle the world is euyl con-  
 tent of thy deth, & thangellys hath brouzt the in com-  
 forte.' In thys manere and otherwyse Charles bewept  
 20 and<sup>2</sup> sorowed his neuw Roulland. And he made hys  
 tentys to be sette vp there, for to lodge there al that  
 nyght, & dyd doo make grete fyres and grete lyghtes  
 for to watche the body of Roulland; & after he dyd  
 24 do enoynte hys body with myrre & haulme and other  
 thynges aromatiques, for to conserue the body from euyl  
 sauour; and his obsequyes were made, & hys entyer-  
 ment with grete prayers, offrynges, & almeses in grete  
 28 contemplacion."

And he lamented  
 over him as David  
 over Absalom,

and, after, caused  
 his body to be  
 embalmed.

¶ How Olyuer was founden slayn, and' of the  
 deth of the sarasyns, & of the deth of  
 ganellon, whyche was hydous: capitulo v

32 **I**N the morne erly, charles came where the bataylle  
 had been with his peple, and there they fonde the  
 noble Olyuer stretchede oute in maner of a crosse,

Next morning the  
 body of Oliver is  
 found,

<sup>1</sup> orig. thith.

<sup>2</sup> m iijj.

fastened to four  
stakes,  
and flayed.

Charles vows he  
will never cease  
till he has avenged  
the death of his  
men.

By a miracle the  
day continues till  
he overtakes the  
Saracens, and

slays 4000 of  
them.

Then Charles  
enquires who was  
the traitor.

Thierry accuses  
Ganelon.

Charles appoints  
a knight to fight  
for Ganelon.

Thierry slays him,

whyche was fastned to foure stakes with iiij cordes & sharply bounden, and fro the necke to the nayles or vngles of his feet and handes he was flayn; he was al to-hewen, and shotte & hurte wyth speres, sharp dartes, 4 quarellys, & arowes, & beten wyth staues; he was al to-faissshed and broken. wherfore the crye of many of the crysten began to renewe for the hydous deth of Olyuer, and of many other. wherfore Charles <sup>1</sup>swore by 8 god almyghty that he wold neuer cesse tyl that he had founden the sarasyns, & forthwyth he went wyth his hoost & noblesse. and by cause that the paynyns were moche<sup>2</sup> ferre fro them, god shewed a fayr myracle; 12 For that same day was prolonged thre dayes longe wythout that the sonne remeued ony thyng. and they fonde the sarasyns by a ryuer named Ebra in Cezarye, whyche rested them, and ete & dranke at theyr ease, 16 wythout doubtyng of ony thyng. and charles & hys people came vpon them so Impetuously that in a litel whyle there were slayn iiij M sarasyns, and the other fledde & saued them self. Thenne themperour, seyng 20 that he myght goo no ferther, retorned to rounyuale, And began tenquyre vpon the fayt of trayson, and who had doon it, & what man. Thenne he was enformed that Ganellon had made it, and that was the comune 24 oppynyon of them alle. And emonge alle other Thyerry accused and appeled hym of the treason, and that he wold fyght in the quarel. ¶ For Thyerry had knowleche by the sarasyn that rolland had bounden to a tree. 28 The kyng charles ordeyned a knyght for ganellon, named pynable, to fyzt ayenst thyerry. And whan these ij champyons were in the lystes, <sup>3</sup>anone pynalle 32 was slayne by Thyerry; and as wel by thys moyn as by other, it appered clerely that ganellon had bytrayed them. wherfore the emperour Charles, wythoute goyng ony ferther, dyd to take iiij grete horses, & made to sytte

<sup>1</sup> m iiij, col. 2.

<sup>2</sup> orig. moche.

<sup>3</sup> m iiij, back.

on them iiij stronge men, & bonde ganellon to two  
horses by his ij handes, and bonde the two feet to the  
other ij horses, & made hym to be drawen with the one  
4 hors toward y<sup>e</sup> eest, & that other toward the weste, that  
other ayenst the southe, and that other toward the  
north. In this maner eche of the hors drewe forth his  
quarter of the body of the parte whyche he was  
8 bounden vnto.

and Charles  
has Ganelon  
drawn in pieces  
by horses.

¶ How after the thynges afore sayd' charles  
gaf thankynges & preysynges to god &  
saynt Denys, & of the constytucions that  
12 he made in fraunce : capitulo vj

**W**Han thexecucyon was doon of Ganellon and  
executed, charles & hys people cam in to the  
place where the frensshe men had be slayn, &  
16 bygan to knowe theyr parents, frendes, & lordes, for to  
bere them in to halowed place. they caryed somme  
vpon theyr horses; Other salted them wyth salte, for  
to mayntene them to brynge them in to theyr contreye;  
20 Other buryed them in the same place, & <sup>1</sup>some bare  
theym on their sholdres. Somme ennoynted them wyth  
oylle and myrre, & somme wyth baulme the best wyse  
they myght. Neuertheles, there were two cymytoyres  
24 or chircheyrdes, ryght deuoute & pryncypally halowed  
emonge the other, whych were sacred and blessyd wyth  
vij bysshops. That one of the cymytoyres was in erles,  
and that othe[r] in burdegale. & Saynt maxymyen of  
28 ays, Saynt Trophyn of arles, poule of nerbonne, Saynt  
Saturyn of Tholouse, saynt fontyn of poytyers, saynt  
Marcel of lymoges, and saynt Eutrope of xayntes had  
sacred and halowed them. In whyche places were  
32 buryed the moost party of the frensshe men slayn and  
destroyed in rounyuale. Themperour dyd do bere

The French army  
attend to their  
dead comrades :

some they bury,  
others they em-  
balm and take  
with them.

Two cemeteries  
are made, one at

Arles, the other  
at Bordeaux,

where the French  
dead are buried.

<sup>1</sup> m iiij, back, col. 2.

Roland is buried  
at Blois, at the  
Church of St.  
Romain.

Oliver and others  
are buried at  
Bordeaux.

Charles gives all  
the land for seven  
miles round to the  
church of St.  
Romain, for the

sake of Roland,

and appoints  
masses for the  
dead.

At Arles are  
buried Samson,  
Naymes, and  
others.

Constantine's  
body is taken to  
Rome.

rolland, the glorious marter, vpon two mules couerd  
wyth clothes of sylke, honourably vnto bloye, & in the  
chyrche of saynt Romain, the whyche he had edefyed  
and founded wyth chanonnes regular, he dyd rychely 4  
burye hym, and wyth grete magnyfycence; & on hye,  
ouer his sepulture, he dyd do sette hys swerde, and at  
hys feet he dyd do sette his horne of yuorye. Not  
wythstondyng, after, the horne was taken aweye and 8  
borne to Saynt Seueryn at bourdeaws. At bourdeaulx  
were buryed olyuer & gaudeboy, <sup>1</sup>kyng of Fryse, Ogyer,  
kyng of denmark; and Crestayn, kyng of bretayne;  
Garyn, duc of Lorayne, and many other. As for Eafe- 12  
rus, kyng of bourdeaulx; Euglerius, kyng of guyan;  
lambert, kyng of bourges, and galerus reygnaute, with  
v M other, charles gaf xij C vnces of siluer of money  
that tyme courant, & as moche of talents of gold, & 16  
many robes and mete to poure peple, for sauacyon of  
their soules. and al the londe seuen myle aboute he gaf  
to the chyrche of saynt Romain, and maad it subgette  
to that relygyon. And al bloye, wyth thappertenautes 20  
and the see ayenst the sayd terrytorye, he gaf semblably  
to the sayd chyrche for charyte & loue of Rolland, and  
ordeyned it so for euer. and on the day of their pas-  
syon he ordeyned that in the same place shold euery 24  
yere perpetuelly xxx poure men be fedde and clothed  
competently, and thyrti messys songen for them that  
there were buryed and entyered, and for alle them that  
were dede in spayne for the crysten fayth. In Arles 28  
was buryed the counte of lengres; samson, duc of bour-  
goyne; Naymes, duc of bauyere; Arnold de bellandus,  
and Albert bourgoynon, and other fyue knyghtes, wyth  
ten thousand other moyen peple. Constantyn, pro- 32  
uoste of <sup>2</sup>Rome, was borne to Rome wyth many other  
Romainys, and for y<sup>e</sup> remedye of theyr soules them-  
perour gaf in arles for almesse xij C vnces of syluer



and xij talentes of gold, whyche was worth a grete  
somme of gold & syluer courant in that tyme.

¶ How Charles wente in to Almayne, where  
4 he deyed' holyly, And of hys deth shewed  
to Turpyn, and' of hys buryeng' Impery-  
ally : capitulo vij

8 A fter the thynges afore sayd, Themperour charles  
and Turpyn, wyth the other, came and passed by  
vyenne; & there Turpyn tharchebysshop, a moche  
holy man, abode, for he was wery and moche febled  
of the payne that he had had for the fayth in spayne.  
12 and Charles wente to parys, & anone after he assemaled  
al the nobles and the moost grettest lordes of hys con-  
treye, for to establyssh certayn ordynaunces, and for to  
gyue thankynges to god & to saynt Denys of the vyc-  
16 torye that he had obteyned in his tyme vpon the sara-  
syns, paynyms, & myscreauntes. And after that he  
had thanked god and saynt denys, and to his chyrche  
fast by parys, lyke as saynt Poule thapostle and saynt  
20 Clement the pope had<sup>1</sup> doon in tyme passed, he maad  
constytucyon entyere that al the kynges of Fraunce  
present & to come shold obeye to the pastour that shold  
be for y<sup>e</sup> tyme of that chyrche, and that neuere kyng  
24 shold be crowned wythoute the pastour of that chyrche,  
ne the bysshop of parys shold not be receyued at Rome  
wythout hys consent & comandement. And he gaf  
many rychesses to y<sup>t</sup> chirche, & in token that fraunce  
28 was gyuen to that chyrche of saynt denys, he ordeyned  
that euery possessour in al y<sup>e</sup> nacyon of fraunce shold  
gyue & be bounden to gyue to the chyrche of saynt  
denys, for to edefye & augmente it, iiij pens of money  
32 courant yerely & perpetuely, & al they that shold gyue  
it wyth a good wylle, yf they were of bonde & serue

Charles goes to  
Vienna,

where he leaves  
Turpin,

and thence to  
Paris.

He ordains that  
all kings of France  
shall be crowned  
at St. Denis,

and all bishops  
should be subject  
to the priest of  
that church.

Also that every  
person should pay  
to it yearly four  
pence,

and any bondmen  
who paid this  
should be free.

He prays for the  
souls of his  
soldiers.

St. Denis ap-  
pears to him,

and declares that  
all who pay the  
annual pence to  
his church, shall  
have forgiveness  
of their sins.

And this payment  
was called the  
Frank of St.  
Denis,

whence the coun-  
try has its name  
of France.

condycion, he wold<sup>t</sup> they shold be franke & free of con-  
dycon. And<sup>t</sup> after anone these thynges ordeyned, he  
went & came tofore the body of saynt denys moche  
deuoutely, & there he prayed the glorious saynt that he 4  
wold<sup>t</sup> praye vnto our lord<sup>t</sup> Ihesu Cryst, that alle they y<sup>t</sup>  
were dede of the crysten fayth in the tyme that he had<sup>t</sup>  
regned<sup>t</sup> that they myght be saued<sup>t</sup>, and<sup>t</sup> that the payne  
that they had<sup>t</sup> taken my<sup>3</sup>t be to them the crowne of mar- 8  
tyrdom in the glorye perdurable; & in semblable wyse  
he prayed<sup>t</sup> for al them that wold<sup>t</sup> <sup>1</sup>paye gladly the pens  
aforesayd<sup>t</sup> to his chyrche. As god<sup>t</sup> wold<sup>t</sup>, that nyght  
folowyng<sup>t</sup> saynt denys appyered<sup>t</sup> to hym, & sayd<sup>t</sup> to 12  
hym in thys manere: "O kyng, vnderstonde me,  
knowe thou, that I haue made prayer to god, my maker,  
& he hath graunted<sup>t</sup> that alle they that haue been ayenst  
the sarasyns with the haue pardon of al theyr trespaces, 16  
& that wyllingly shal paye the penyes for the edefy-  
cacyon of my chyrche & augmentyng<sup>t</sup> the seruyce of  
god<sup>t</sup>, they shal haue amendement of lyf and pardon of  
theyr synnes." This vysyon on the morne themperour 20  
recounted to hys peple, lyke as he had herd, by cause  
they shold wyth a good wyllle pay the penyes that he  
had ordeyned; & he that gaf it was called the franke of  
saynt denys, by cause that he was free and<sup>t</sup> quyte of al 24  
seruage by the commandement of the kyng. After  
came the custome that that londe whyche was called  
Gallia loste hys name, & was called fraunce, as it is  
named<sup>t</sup> at thys day, & Fraunce is as moche to say as 28  
free of al seruage anenst al peple; and<sup>t</sup> therfore the  
lordes of Fraunce for this cause emonge al crysten men  
owen to be honoured<sup>t</sup> & prayed<sup>t</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> m v, back, col. 2.

¶ The recapitulacion of alle thys werke, & of  
his deth at Acon, & of hys sepulture:  
capitulo viij

- 4 <sup>1</sup> **T**He kyng Charles contynued gloriously his lyf  
in vertuouse operacyons, And whan he felte the  
declyne of hys lyf he went vnto Acon, where he  
had tofore doon moche good, & enobled a chyrche of  
8 our lady the rounde, the whyche he dyd do make, and  
gaf therto grete tresour of relyques of bodyes of sayntes,  
of gold & syluer, of clothes of sylke, & other precyos-  
sytees meruayllous, and there he deyed in the yere of  
12 hys age lxxij. & for the magnyfycence of hys werkes  
he was called charles the grete; & he had iij sones  
thenne lyuyng, of whom the fyrst was named Charles,  
the second Pepyn, & the thyrd Lowys; & also he had  
16 iij doughters, that one was named Rotrudys, that other  
berga, & the thyrd gylla. & whan he knewe that he  
myght noo longer lyue, hys sone lowys, whome he had  
ordeyned for special loue kyng of guyan, he lefte to  
20 hym the mageste Imperyal. For to knowe the holynes  
& the glorious ende of Charles, & how he was saued in  
heuen, and renomed an holyman, The deuoute Turpyn,  
archebyssshop of Raynes, sayth in this manere, "I Tur-  
24 pyn, archbyssshop of Raynes, was in vyenne in the  
chyrche tofore thaulter, & was rauysshed in sayeng the  
psalm, '**Deus in adiutoryum**<sup>2</sup> **meum intende.**' I sawe  
a companye of blacke peple lyke Etheyopyens, which  
28 were in quantyte Innumerable, whyche went toward  
lorayne; and I sawe one tofore hys felowes, & I de-  
maunded hym whyther al they wente. the whyche,  
beyng constrayned to ansuere, sayd, 'we alle goo to  
32 Acon to the dethe of Charles, whyche lyeth a-dyeng.  
And we wyl see yf we may haue hys soule for to bere  
in to helle to perpetuel dampnacyon.' Thenne I sayd

Charles retires to  
Acon,

where he dies at  
the age of 72,

leaving three sons

and three daugh-  
ters,

His youngest son,  
Louis, succeeds  
him.

Turpin, at Vienna,

sees a vision of  
devils,

who tell him of  
the death of  
Charles, and that  
they mean to have  
his soul.

<sup>1</sup> m vj.

<sup>2</sup> orig. adintoryum.

<sup>3</sup> m vj, col. 2.

to hym, 'I adiure the by the vertue of the name of  
 our Lord Ihesu cryst that, wythoute fayllyng, after that  
 ye haue doon, that thou retorne by me.'” Anone after,  
 or he coude fynyshe hys psalme, the deuylles cam 4  
 retournyng ageyn in the same ordre that they wente.  
 “And thenne I sayd to hym that I had spoken to by-  
 fore, ‘what haue ye doon there as ye haue been?’  
 that same deuyl ansuerd, that ‘James of galyce, frende 8  
 to charles, hath ben moche contrarye to vs, for whan  
 we were redy for to receyue hys soule, and had egally  
 departed his good dedes and his euyl, he brought so  
 many stones & tymbre of chyrches, whyche he had doo 12  
 make in the name of hym, that his good dedes sur-  
 mounted moche his euyl dedes, wherfore we myght  
 haue noo thyng ne parte;’ & thys sayd, the deuyl  
<sup>1</sup>vanysshed awaye,” & soo he loste hys vysyon. Thus 16  
 Charles, in the moneth of feuaryere, rendred his soule  
 to god holyly. For after that he retorned fro spayn he  
 dyd but languyshe & appayre in hys body toward his  
 deth; & in hys ende he ordeyned many almesses, & 20  
 to say many masses & psaulters. And the vysyon that  
 the glorious archebysshop Turpyn sawe, is sygnyfy-  
 cacion that he whyche maynteneth and edefyeth  
 chyrches in thys present world, that he maketh pre- 24  
 paracyon of hys syege in heuen. His sepulture was  
 moche honourable emonge al the sepultures of the world,  
 noble and ryche excellently, and so fayr that it myzt  
 not be amended. and ouer hys tombe was maad an 28  
 arche of gold & syluer and of precyous stones, com-  
 pryed by grete scyence. & thyder came Leo the pope,  
 accompanied wyth prynces Romainys, archebyssshops,  
 bysshops, Abbottes, Dukes, Erles, and many other 32  
 lordes, and dyd do make a fayre representacyon of the  
 body of Charles, clad rychely and Imperyally with a  
 fayre crowne of gold sette on his hede, & satte vpon

The devils return,

and tell him that  
 St. James pro-  
 duced so many  
 good works done  
 by Charles, that

they cannot have  
 his soul.

Charles is buried  
 with great mag-  
 nificence,  
 in a tomb over

which was set a  
 figure of himself,  
 crowned and  
 seated on his  
 throne.



a chayer of gold<sup>d</sup> moche fayre and shynyng<sup>i</sup>, and resembled wel a notable Iuge lyuyng. and they sette vpon his knees notably the texte of the four gospelles in  
 4 fayre letters <sup>1</sup>of gold<sup>d</sup>, & wyth the ryzt hande he helde the lettre, & in the lyfte hande he helde the ceptre Imperial, moche ryche ; & by cause the heed<sup>d</sup> shold not encline to eyther syde, hit was vnder set wyth a chayne  
 8 of gold<sup>d</sup> & susteyned<sup>d</sup>. And the crowne that was on hys heed<sup>d</sup> raught to the arche, whiche was al aboue wel made, & the conduytes of the sepulture were replenysshed with al good odours aromatyques & precyous, and after  
 12 closed<sup>d</sup> & shette moche subtylly, & honourably kepte, as it was wel worthy for to be doon.

On his knees  
 were placed the  
 Gospels,

and in his left  
 hand the sceptre.

¶ Thexcusacyon of thauctour. ix

16 **T**His werke, accomplysshed<sup>d</sup> to the playsyr of god<sup>d</sup> tofore wryton, conteyneth thre bookes, by the chapytres deuyded<sup>d</sup>, as it appereth openly to the reders, and I haue made them thre, after that I haue comprysed<sup>d</sup> in the separacyon and deuydyng<sup>i</sup> of the  
 20 matyer. Of whyche the fyrst book speketh of the begynnyng<sup>i</sup> of fraunce, and of the fyrst crysten kyng<sup>i</sup> of fraunce, whyche was named<sup>d</sup> Cloys by the moyen of his wyf clotildys, in descendyng to kyng<sup>i</sup> Pepyn, fader of  
 24 themperour Charles, In the honour of whome thys book is composed<sup>d</sup> for the moost parte ; to the whyche Pepyn the lygnage of <sup>2</sup>kyng<sup>i</sup> Cloys took an ende in successyon of the Royalme of Fraunce. And the sayd<sup>d</sup> fyrst book  
 28 sayth, more ouer, how Charles was nourrysshed<sup>d</sup>, of hys corpulence, of hys etyng<sup>i</sup>, of hys strengthe, of hys scyence, & other werkes of magnyfycence. The second<sup>d</sup> book speketh of the bataylle that Olyuer dyd<sup>d</sup> ayenst  
 32 Fyerabras, the meruayllous geaunte, sone of ballant, Admyral of spayne, a puyssaunt kyng<sup>e</sup> ; & al the fyrst parte of the second book is attributed<sup>d</sup> to noble olyuer,

This work contains three books,  
 divided into chapters.

The first book  
 tells of the beginning of France,

and of the youth  
 of Charles.

The second book,  
 of the duel between Oliver and  
 Fierabras.

<sup>1</sup> m vj, back, col. 2.

<sup>2</sup> m vij.

The third book  
treats of the con-  
quest of Spain by  
Charles,

of the treason of  
Ganelon,

and the death of  
Charles.

and in the honour of hym. After ye shal fynde how  
the peres of fraunce were deteyned in Aygremore and  
put in surete, & after saued fynably by florypes, the  
curtoys doughter of the sayd ballant; And the holy 4  
relyques recouered, and other maters of grete mer-  
uaylles. The iij book speketh how, by reuelacyon of  
saynt Iames, charles went and conquerd spayne &  
galyce, where as he dyd operacions vertuous, & made 8  
constytucyons of sauacyon, wyth many bataylles doon  
by hym and hys subgettes; and fynably of the trayson  
of Ganellon, by the whyche the deth of Rolland was  
pyetous, the deth of Olyuer dolorouse, and of the other 12  
peres of crysten knyghtes slayn & dede. And fynably  
the deth of Charles themperour, as tofore is sayd and  
wryton. and <sup>1</sup>after that ony persone wyl here or rede  
of thys matere, the table made atte begynnyng shal 16  
shewe it to hym lyghtly, yf it be hys playsyr to here or  
rede of y<sup>e</sup> werk in thys book composed.

### ¶ Thenuoye of thauctour : ca.

x

This work I have  
written to be a  
good example to  
all,  
how to rule their  
lives.

**A**S I haue sayd at the begynnyng of thys present 20  
werke, the escriptures and feates somme haue  
ben reduced in wrytyng for to be in memorye,  
to the ende that they that haue doon wel, be to vs  
ensaumple in ensyewyng and folowyng them, & they 24  
that haue doon euyl may be cause to rewle our lyf for  
to come to the porte of helthe. For the comune vnder-  
stondyng is more contente to reteyne parables and  
examples for the ymagynacion locall, than to symple 28  
auctoryte, the whyche is reteyned by vnderstondyng,  
and also semblably thystories spekyng of our lord  
Ihesu cryst, of hys myracles, & of his vertuous sub-  
gettes, euery man ouzt gladly to here and retenne them. 32  
& it is so, that at the requeste of the sayd venerable

And I have made  
it at the request

<sup>1</sup> m vij, col. 2.

- man to fore named, Maister henry bolonnyer, chanonne  
of lausanne, I haue been Incyted to translate & reduyse  
in prose in to Frensshe the mater tofore reduced. as  
4 moche as toucheth the fyrst & the thyrd <sup>1</sup>book I haue  
taken & drawen oute of a book named myrroure hys-  
toryal for the moost parte; & the second book I haue  
onely reduced it out of an olde romaunce in frensshe.  
8 And without other Informacyon than of the same book,  
I haue reduced it in to prose, substancyally wythout  
fayllyng, by ordynaunce of chapytres & partyes of the  
sayd book, after the mater in the same conteyned.  
12 And yf in al thys book I haue mesprysed or spoken  
otherwyse than good langage, substancyally ful of good  
vnderstandyng to al makers & clerkes, I demaunde  
correxion and amendement, and of the defaultes par-  
16 don. For yf the penne hath wryton euyl, the hert  
thought it neuer, but entended to say wel; & also my  
wytte & vnderstandyng, whyche is ryght lytel, can not  
vttre ne wryte thys matere withoute errour. Neuer-  
20 theles, who so vnderstandeth wel the lettre shal wel  
compryse myn entencyon, by which he shal fynde  
nothyng but moyen for to come to saluacyon. To the  
whyche may fynably come alle they that wyllingly  
24 rede, or here, or do thys book to be redde. Amen.

of Master Bolo-  
myer,  
Canon of Lau-  
sanne.

The first and third  
book I haue trans-  
lated from the  
*Speculum His-  
toriale*, and the  
second from an  
old French  
romance.

I pray all who  
may find a fault  
in it to pardon it,

and attribute to  
my want of learn-  
ing, not my good  
will.

- ¶ And by cause I, Wylliam Caxton, was desyred  
& requyred by a good and synguler frend of myn,  
Maister wylliam dau<sup>2</sup>beny, one of the tresorers of the  
28 Iewellys of the noble & moost crysten kyng, our na-  
turel and souerayn lord, late of noble memorye, kyng  
Edward the fourth, on whos soule Ihesu haue mercy,  
To reduce al these sayd hystories in to our Englysshe  
32 tongue, I haue put me in deuoyr to translate thys sayd  
book, as ye heretofore may se al a-longe and pl[a]yn,  
prayeng alle them that shal rede, see, or here it, to

And I, William  
Caxton, haue, at  
the instance of  
Sir W. Daubeney,

translated this  
book into English

And I pray all to

<sup>1</sup> m vij, back.

<sup>2</sup> m vij, back, col. 2.

excuse my rude  
translation, and  
forgive the faults  
they may find.

And this work I  
finished on the  
18th June, in the  
year of our Lord,  
1483.

pardon me of thys symple & rude trans[l]acyon and  
reducyng, bysechyng theym that shal fynde faute to  
correcte it, & in so doying they shal deserue thankynges,  
& I shal praye god for them, who brynge them and me, 4  
after this short and transytorye lyf, to euerlastyng  
blysse. Amen. the whyche werke was fynnysshed in  
the reducyng of hit in to englysshe, the xvij day of  
Iuyn, the second yere of kyng Rychard the thyrd, 8  
And the yere of our lord MCCCC lxxxv, And enprynted  
the fyrst day of decembre, the same of our lord, & the  
fyrst yere of kyng Harry the seuenth.

¶ Explicit per William Caxton.



## NOTES.

- Page 1, line 12. "hye hystories:" Fr. *histoires haultaines*.
- p. 1, l. 13. Fr. *lentendement comun est mieulx content a retenir pour la ymaginacion locale, a la quelle il est subzmis*.
- p. 1, l. 15. "gladly:" Fr. *volontiers*.
- p. 2, l. 9. Fr. *peult estre que je ieusse bien este informe*.
- p. 2, l. 11. See *Introduction*.
- p. 2, l. 27. The "*Book of the noble Hystories of Kyng Arthur and of certeyn of his Knyghtes*, reduced into English by Syr Thomas Malory, Knyght, and by Mr. William Caxton, deuyded into xxi bookes, chapytred and emprynted in the abbey westmestre;" was printed also in 1485, folio. It is a book of the greatest rarity. There is a perfect copy in Earl Jersey's library, at Osterley Park, and an imperfect one, wanting four leaves, in the library of Earl Spencer. It was reprinted by Wynkyn de Worde in 1498, folio, and an unique copy of this reprint is also in Earl Spencer's library. "*The last Siege and Conqueste of Jherusalem*," which gives the account of Godfrey of Bullogne, appeared in 1481.
- p. 16, l. 22. "the people is boystous & furious, &c.:" Fr. *celluy peuple est austere et furieulx, et, que pis est, sans memoire de dieu*.
- p. 17, l. 16. "guarysshed and hool:" Fr. *gary*.
- p. 17, l. 33. "and wepte—sayd:" Fr. *plourer moult largement en grant pitie va dire, &c.*
- p. 18, l. 11. Fr. *Pour quoy toy comme vray dieu et seigneur ie te requiers, comme ie ne desire croire quen toy fermement: par ta haultaine puissance ie demande*.
- p. 19, l. 27. [he]: the pronoun is unnecessarily inserted here: throughout the book the subject is constantly omitted in secondary clauses, where the person or thing spoken of is the same as in the principal sentence. See *Sege off Melayne*, l. 27, and note.
- p. 19, l. 31. "autentykly:" Fr. *auctentiquement*.
- p. 19, l. 32. "frentes:" clearly an error for "fontes:" the Fr. reads, *composer baptitoires couenablement*.
- p. 21, l. 23. "put hym self in relygyon:" that is, became a recluse, devoted himself to religion: Fr. *se mist en religion*.
- p. 26, l. 11. "cont[r]ye:" Fr. *pais*.
- p. 26, l. 24. "wel a poynte:" Fr. *bien a pointe*.

- p. 27, l. 4. "as touchyng the pytaunce:" as regards his share at dinner: Fr. *quant a la pitance*.
- p. 27, l. 12. "iij hors shoen:" the Fr. original adds, *venans de la forge*.
- p. 29, l. 1. "to hym:" we should here insert "he doeth," according to the reading of the French original, *on fait*.
- p. 29, l. 12. "frequented:" constantly studied: Fr. *frequentoit*.
- p. 29, l. 26. "moche ample & boystous:" Fr. *moult ample et robuste*.
- p. 29, l. 30. "he ete not for the moost parte, &c.:" Fr. *ne mengoit pour le plus que de quatre metz, si non de la venoison rostie*.
- p. 32, l. 21. "be enclosed in Iustyce:" Fr. *soies enclos en iustice*.
- p. 33, l. 19. The original French runs: *ilz se vont trouuer en vng grant bois quon ne pouoit passer a mains de deux iours encores a grant paine, et charles le pensoit passer en vng iour*. The meaning evidently is that the wood was so extensive that they could not pass through it in two days, and even then with great difficulty.
- p. 34, l. 1. Psalm cxix. 35.
- p. 34, l. 15. "after in the same contreye, &c.:" Fr. *depuis sont veus ces oyceaulx*.
- p. 34, l. 24. In the original, *Constantynople*.
- p. 37, l. 1. "moment." The original reading is *au mouuement quon tira*. The French *mouuement* is evidently a mistake.
- p. 37, l. 30. "And it was ordeyned, &c.:" Fr. *il est ordonne que ou moys de iuing a ays la cite tous les ans on deust venir veoir, &c*.
- p. 38, l. 23. "after that I shal mowe, &c.:" Fr. *selon que ien pourray concepuoir*.
- p. 39, l. 4. "of rome:" orig. *a rome*.
- p. 39, l. 9. "adiouste:" add. Fr. *adioudre*. On the word adjust, as representing the two Latin forms *adjustare* and *adjustare*, see Dr. Murray's paper in the *Philological Society's Transactions*, 1880.
- p. 39, l. 10. "I haue not founde in the book competent:" this, unintelligible in itself, is explained by the original French, which reads, *ou liure competent*, the last word meaning containing.
- p. 39, l. 20. See the different lists of the douzeperes, as given in the various romances in my note to *Sir Ferumbras*, l. 259, where the list given as that found in the *Sowdane of Babyloyn* should be read as that of the original French version in the Grenville copy, 10531. The names given in the *Sowdone* will be found in Dr. Hausknecht's Introduction to his edition of that romance, p. xxvii. For the names in *Roland* and *Otuel*, see my edition, note to l. 688.
- p. 40, l. 30. Compare *Sir Ferumbras*, l. 78.
- p. 41, l. 13. "as euyll and olde:" Fr. *comme mauvais viellart*.
- p. 41, l. 33. "that I be fugytyf:" Fr. *ie soie fugi*.
- p. 42, l. 22. "quasi hurt, &c.:" hurt almost to the death.
- p. 42, l. 27. These exploits are related in the *Sowdone of Babyloyn*, pp. 4 *et seq.*
- p. 46, l. 19. "cremeur:" in the original the same.

- p. 46, l. 20. "as," read [h]as[t]: Fr. *qui as*.
- p. 48, l. 14. "At nede a man knoweth hys frende." See the *Gesta Romanorum*, p. 131.
- p. 48, l. 20. See note to *Sir Ferumbras*, l. 988.
- p. 48, l. 28. "took to hym." The original adds, *qui estoit estachie a dix riches cloux de fin or*.
- p. 49, l. 22. "lodgyce:" Fr. *logis*.
- p. 50, l. 3. "oute of mesure:" so outrageous in his conduct and language. "At thys heure, &c.:" Fr. *de cette heure ie vous ottoie*.
- p. 50, l. 18. "Andrewe:" Fr. *Andrieu*, does not appear again in the present or any other account of the treason at Roncesvalles, so far as I am aware.
- p. 50, l. 21. Compare the corresponding passages in *Sir Ferumbras*, ll. 310 *et seq.*, and the notes.
- p. 50, l. 33. "secretly:" Fr. *comme entre ses dens*. Cf. *Sir Ferumbras*, 322.
- p. 51, l. 24. "the kyng had gyuen to hym hys gloue in sygne of lycence." The usual mode of giving permission to undertake a duel: compare *Roland and Otuel*, l. 1366, and the *Song of Roland*, l. 482, and notes.
- p. 51, l. 31. "where shal I become:" what will become of me? See Prof. Skeat's note to *P. Plowman*, B. v. 651.
- p. 52, l. 22. "he setted nought by hym:" took no thought or heed of him.
- p. 53, l. 9. "or:" I have corrected the reading in accordance with the original, which has *ou*.
- p. 54, l. 18. Compare *Chanson de Roland*, 376. "*Jamais n'iert hum qui encuntre lui vaillet*."
- p. 55, l. 26. "thou art departed of a lowe hous:" Fr. *tu es bien de basse main party*.
- p. 56, l. 12. "of the rounde table." An addition of the translator.
- p. 56, l. 20. "I trowe thou be hurte." Not in the original.
- p. 56, l. 27. "flagons:" *barilz*: "botelles" in the *Sowdan*, l. 1185: "costrel" in *Sir Ferumbras*, l. 510, on which see note and *Introd.*, p. xii; at p. 60, l. 6, below, they are called "barylles."
- p. 57, l. 21. "Termagaunt:" Fr. *Taluagaunt*.
- p. 57, l. 30. "goddess:" the reading has been corrected on the authority of the original, which has *dieux*.
- p. 58, l. 28. "lether of arabye:" Fr. *cuir de capadoce*.
- p. 59, l. 3. "to the regarde of hys persone:" *i. e.* in comparison with himself.
- p. 59, l. 11. "I suppose:" *i. e.* I am sure.
- p. 59, l. 18. "grabam." The names of *Ferumbras*' swords are not given in *Sir Ferumbras* or the *Sowdan*, but in the verse *Fierabras* are said to have been *Florance*, *Baptism*, and *Garbain*.
- p. 59, l. 23. ["I wyl saye:"] omitted also in the original, but plainly needed.

- p. 59, l. 25. In the verse *Fierabras* the names appear as *Galans*, *Munificans*, and *Aurisas*.
- p. 59, l. 33. The verse *Fierabras* gives the names of the swords made by Munificans as *Durendal*, *Musaguine*, and *Courtain*.
- p. 60, l. 6. "barylles." See p. 56, l. 27, and note.
- p. 60, l. 8. "bended:" bound, banded: Fr. *bende*.
- p. 61, l. 12. "seen:" i. e. seeing, considering.
- p. 61, l. 35. "thou remembrest:" Fr. *tu tauises*, i. e. thou thinkest of.
- p. 62, l. 18. "vterance:" Fr. *a oultrance*.
- p. 62, l. 23. "at this stroke:" Fr. *a cestuy cop*.
- p. 62, l. 34. "bowed and entred:" Fr. *ploiez et entrez*.
- p. 63, l. 1. "tronchoned:" Fr. *tronconne*, i. e. broken to pieces.
- p. 63, l. 5. "in a grete whyle:" Fr. *dune grant peece*, i. e. for a great while.
- p. 63, l. 12. "made:" an instance of the omission of the subject pronoun *he* before the verb. See p. 19, l. 27, and note.
- p. 64, l. 4. "he was bowed afterward:" Fr. *par derriere*.
- p. 64, l. 14. "playe:" the regular technical term for fencing or fighting with swords. Thus the *Catholicon Anglicum* has: "a Bucler plaer, *gladiator*; a Bucler playnge, *gladiatura*. þ<sup>e</sup> Swerde & y<sup>e</sup> bucler (bukiller A.) playnge, *gladiatura*." In the *Ancren Riwe*, p. 212, we have the expression "*pleieð mid sweordes*." See further in my notes in the *Catholicon*.
- p. 64, l. 32. "reiouye:" Fr. *resioyr*.
- p. 66, ll. 7-32. Caxton carefully distinguishes between *you* and *ye*: the former never being used for the nominative.
- p. 68, l. 21. "made a lytel course:" ran away a little distance.
- p. 68, l. 24. There is no mention of Oliver's drinking any of the balm in *Sir Ferumbras* or the *Sowdan*. See Dr. Hausknecht's note to the latter, l. 1191.
- p. 68, l. 29. "beyng nyghe vnto a grete ryuer, &c." See note 1 in Introduction to *Sir Ferumbras*, p. xii.
- p. 69, l. 12. ["he:"] the omission of the subject pronoun frequently causes ambiguity when two persons are spoken of: the [he] here, of course, refers to Oliver's horse.
- p. 69, l. 16. "aboue:" Fr. *oultre*, i. e. out of, away from.
- p. 69, l. 20. For number of chapter given as "viij" read "xiiij."
- p. 71, l. 11. "tenestre:" read "terrestre."
- p. 71, l. 21. "Longyus." On the *legend of Longinus*, see Prof. Skeat's notes to *P. Plowman*, C. xxi. 82—90.
- p. 71, l. 31. "thou." Here the singular pronoun is used rightly as in a prayer addressed directly to our Lord: in the previous lines *you* and *ye* were used, as they were not of the character of a prayer.
- p. 72, l. 6. "for hys glorious medytacyon." In the original French, *par glorieux meditacion*. "Neuertheles:" Fr. *touttefois*.
- p. 72, l. 16. "soo coueytous in smytyng:" Fr. *conuoiteulx et affoibly*.
- p. 72, l. 17. "a-slepe:" i. e. numbed. Fr. *endormie*.



- p. 72, l. 19. "at vitteraunce:" *a oultrance*: comp. p. 62, l. 18.
- p. 73, l. 8. "for to apoynte wyth the:" Fr. *te faire vne pache*.
- p. 74, l. 5. "vylete:" Fr. *ville*.
- p. 74, l. 12. "matte." In the original the same. See *Sir Ferumbras*, ll. 2506, 2590, and Glossary.
- p. 75, l. 20. "whyche he brake and al to-frusshed euy l:" Fr. *cassa et rompi mallement*.
- p. 76, l. 5. "and ranne vpon hym:" Fr. *et se coururent*. The succeeding passage is awkwardly expressed in the translation. The original reads: *et fut premierement frappe Oliuer sur son escu par telle fierte, qu'au prez le poinz de Oliuer a mis en pieces son escu*, which is not much better. The *he*, of course, is *Ferumbras*.
- p. 78, l. 16. "enforced:" exerted. Compare *Sir Ferumbras*, 782—  
"Pan Firumbras *enforcede* hym þer to arise vp-on ys fete."
- p. 79, l. 18. "a faus dart:" Fr. *ung faulx dart*. Properly a hand-bill. See *Sir Ferumbras*, l. 966, and note—

"*falsarz an feperd dart*."

The expression occurs again, p. 81, l. 28, below.

- p. 79, l. 20. "crapauld:" Fr. *crapaulx*, a toad.
- p. 80, l. 72. "a pynapple tree:" a pine or fir-tree. The *Catholicon Anglicum* gives: "a Pyne tre (A Pyne Appyltre A.); *pinus* (*pinum fructus eius* A.)." *Apple* was the ordinary word for the cones of the pine or fir. Lyte, Dodoens, p. 769, speaking of the pine, says: "his fruite is great Boulleans or bawles of a browne chesnut colour, and are called *pine-apples*." See other instances in my note in the *Catholicon*.
- p. 81, l. 12. "by force of shotte and of strokes." Altered on the authority of the original, which reads: "*a force de coup et de trais*."
- p. 81, l. 28. "faus dartes." See p. 79, l. 18, and note.
- p. 82, l. 6. "it is good to wete:" this does not at all convey the meaning of the original, which runs: *sans le dire se peult entendre*.
- p. 82, l. 15. The omission of the pronoun before *makyng* makes the sentence rather awkward.
- p. 82, l. 27. "Amancdys:" Fr. *Amandis*.
- p. 82, l. 35. In the *Sowdone* it is Roland and Oliver that are captured: see Dr. Hausknecht's note to l. 1433.
- p. 83, l. 9. "wente doun of a mountayn." In *Sir Ferumbras*, 984:  
"at aualyng of an hulle."
- p. 83, l. 20. "morfounded:" Fr. *morfondus*, lit. chilled, affected by cold.
- p. 84, l. 31. "ones:" at some time or other.
- p. 85, l. 10. "Turpyn." For an account of this celebrated Knight-Bishop, see Dr. Hausknecht's note to the *Sowdone*, l. 1711.
- p. 85, l. 19. "sercheden:" compare *Sir Ferumbras*, l. 1093-4.

"is wounde to *enserche* and saye.

At is heste þey wente þer-to & softe gunne *taste* is wounde."

- p. 86, l. 3. "ballant thadmyral." Laban in the *Sowdone* throughout.

- p. 86, l. 32. "sythe." By using this word to render the original *puis*, Caxton has made the whole sentence almost unintelligible. It should run: "O brullant of mommyere, what is betyd of the noble kyng of Cordube and of my neuewe bruchart, and also of my sone fyerabras, the ledar and captayn of all?"
- p. 87, l. 6. "knyght:" Fr. *damoiseau*.
- p. 87, l. 15. In the *Sowdone* the French knights tell their true names.
- p. 87, l. 30. "yeman:" Fr. *vassal*.
- p. 88, l. 10. "brullant:" in the *Sowdone*, 1512, it is Floripas who advises her father to imprison the Frenchmen, not to slay them.
- p. 89, l. 3. "strayt:" Fr. *estroite*.
- p. 89, l. 6. See note to p. 79, l. 20.
- p. 89, l. 29. "put vnder by fals fortune:" Fr. *soumis a faulx fortune*.
- p. 89, l. 31. "what I make": Fr. *que ie fays*, i. e. what I am doing, how I fare.
- p. 90, l. 11. Compare the description of Floripas as given in *Sir Ferumbras*, l. 5789, *et seq.*
- p. 90, l. 28. "whyche was made of one of the fayrye:" Fr. *faicte dune fae*.
- p. 91, l. 1. Caxton's translation of Raoul Lefevre's *Jason* was printed in 1477 (Blades). Several copies are still in existence.
- p. 91, l. 11. "doughter:" Fr. *la fille*.
- p. 91, l. 26. "Anone florypes had enuye to here hym speke:" Fr. *eult enue les oyr parler*, i. e. had a great desire to hear them speak.
- p. 91, l. 31. "dyschoneste:" Fr. *inhonnestete*.
- p. 91, l. 32. "on that other syde:" i. e. on the other hand, again.
- p. 92, l. 21. "charlemayns:" evidently a misprint for "charlemayne," and not a genitive case.
- p. 92, l. 35. "for to meddle wyth:" Fr. *pour vous mesler* = to engage.
- p. 93, l. 3. "wel ferre for to be oute:" i. e. very far from being out. Perhaps we should read "wel ferre fro to be oute."
- p. 93, l. 18. "ye can wel playe with maydens, &c." Compare the corresponding passage in *Sir Ferumbras*, l. 1303, and Dr. Hausknecht's note to the *Sowdone*, l. 1723.
- p. 93, l. 29. "a corde & a staffe." In *Sir Ferumbras*, 1308, Floripas sends for "anuylt, tange, & slegge." The *Sowdan* agrees with Caxton, for in l. 1647 we are told that she
- "a rope to hem lete down goon  
That aboveñ was teyde faste."
- p. 94, l. 13. "a gardyn pretoyre:" Fr. *avoit ung pretoire*, i. e. an enclosed yard or space.
- p. 94, l. 27. "camuse:" flat-nosed. See note to *Sir Ferumbras*, 4437, and Glossary.
- p. 94, l. 35. "varlet:" a repetition of the original French word.
- p. 95, l. 27. "ye be here in surete as ferre as no man hath herde vs." This hardly conveys the meaning of the original, which runs: *se*

*daventure quelque*, i. e. so long as, or, provided that no man hath heard us.

- p. 95, l. 28. "I am not in doubte:" Fr. *en aultre doute*, i. e. fear.
- p. 96, l. 5. "when my fader the admyral destroyed Rome." See my Introduction to *Sir Ferumbras*, p. xii, and Dr. Hausknecht's edition of the *Sowdan*, Introd.
- p. 96, l. 6. "lucafar:" in the French versions of the romance *Lucifer* throughout.
- p. 97, l. 1. "damage:" Fr. *dommaige*.
- p. 97, l. 4. The French reads: *et plusieurs aultres terriennes victoires*.
- p. 97, l. 6. "deteyned:" Fr. *detenu*.
- p. 97, l. 30. "Rolland." In the *Sowdone*, l. 1668, it is Guy whom Charles orders first to go on the message to Balan. See Introduction, and Dr. Hausknecht's note to l. 1665.
- p. 98, l. 33. "cosyn." Guy was Charles's nephew: see *Sir Ferumbras*, 1922, 2091, &c., and see Dr. Hausknecht's note to the *Sowdone*, l. 1888.
- p. 99, l. 7. "lese:" destroy. Fr. *perdre*.
- p. 101, l. 15. "and:" if.
- p. 102, l. 5. Comparing p. 183, l. 32, it is clear that we should read "he behelde." On Durandal; see note to *Sir Ferumbras*, l. 988, and the *Sowdone*, l. 875.
- p. 102, l. 7. "descerkled:" cut off the circle or band of gold worn round the helmet. Compare *Sir Ferumbras*, l. 622, and note, and the corresponding passage in the *Sowdone*, l. 1182, and Dr. Hausknecht's note.
- p. 103, l. 29. "Ogyer:" in *Sir Ferumbras* it is Richard of Normandy who gives the account of Mantrible, which he was able to do, because, as we learn, "he knew all the cost."
- p. 105, l. 7. "he hath quytte his contreye of fals peple." There can be little doubt that we should read "he hath not quytte."
- p. 107, l. 14. "Naymes": in *Sir Ferumbras*, Roland: the *Sowdone* agrees with our text, see l. 1821.
- p. 108, l. 23. "with his berde florysshed." Compare *Roland and Otuel*, 82; where Naymes, describing Charles, says:
- "He sittes his dusters Imange,  
With white berde large and lange  
Faire of flesche & felle.  
With a floreschede thonwange,  
Oure noble kynge þat es so strange,  
His doghety men imelle."
- p. 113, l. 25. "enterbraced eche other & kyssed:" Fr. *se font baisser et accoller*.
- p. 116, l. 27. "gloutons." Cf. *Sir Ferumbras*, 1634, 3841, &c.
- p. 118, l. 26. Compare the account of the game "at the coal," given in the *Sowdone*, ll. 1999—2003. In it Lucifer burns the beard of Naymes, who at once kills him.



- p. 119, l. 8. "thou wendest to haue made me to muse in thy folyes :"  
Fr. *tu me cuidas il na pas gaires bon faite muser en tes folies.*
- p. 119, l. 17. "no more charge to playe :"  
Fr. *na plus cure de ioeur.*
- p. 120, l. 7. "put you in poynte :"  
Fr. *mis en point* = arm yourselves completely.
- p. 120, l. 28. "whyche was wel appoynted, &c. :"  
Fr. *trestien apparaille tantost fut par terre verse.*
- p. 121, p. 18. Fr. *tousiours a la cue dung viel chien vous tenez.*
- p. 122, l. 23. "Marpyn :"  
in the *Sowdone*, Mapyne; in *Sir Ferumbras*, l. 2387, Maubyn.
- p. 123, l. 23. "he came so wel to poynte, &c. :"  
slightly different in the French, *il vient la bien a point, car le larron.*
- p. 124, l. 29. "hyr spouse that shold be :"  
Fr. *son espoux advenir.* Compare p. 134, l. 27.
- p. 128, l. 11. "doubted :"  
feared. Fr. *redoubte.*
- p. 129, l. 13. "wente in theyr repayre :"  
went on their way back. Fr. *alloient en leur repaire.*
- p. 130, l. 18. "leste not for to be forthwith quartred, &c. :"  
he did not hesitate, though he should be at once cut to pieces. In the French, *et pour estre esquartelle presentement il ne se just tenu quil ne prist celluy sarrazin.*
- p. 130, l. 29. "whyche wyth theyr feet and handes al to-bete hym in suche wyse, &c. :"  
Fr. *que des pies que des mains ilz le vont tant battre* = both with hands and feet they beat him, &c. Compare the corresponding passage in *Syr Ferumbras*, p. 90, l. 2790, and note.
- p. 133, l. 19. "so hardy and oute of mesure :"  
Fr. *si hardis et desmesurez.*
- p. 134, l. 27. "hir loue and tocomyng husbond :"  
Fr. *son espouse aduenir.* Compare p. 124, l. 29.
- p. 134, l. 31. "Truste ye none other, &c. :"  
be sure of this only, that if he die I shall leap out of the wyndowe, &c. Fr. *ne vous fies point que sil meurt.*
- p. 136, l. 11. "a morel of grete facyon :"  
Fr. *moreau de grant fasson.*
- p. 136, l. 19. "after that he was recoured :"  
as soon as he had recovered himself. Fr. *aprez quil se fut recouure.*
- p. 136, l. 32. "Inconuenyents :"  
Fr. *inconueniens* = damage.
- p. 137, l. 31. "cryed to hym wyth an hye voys, &c. :"  
Fr. *luy cria a haulte voix quil luy pleust de la venir baisier, en disant que selle viuoit pour la prousse des barons que son pere ladmiral seroit vne ffoys en son dangier.* The whole passage is very obscure, nor does the corresponding line in *Sir Ferumbras* help much to make it any clearer.
- p. 142, l. 3. "at vtteraunce :"  
Fr. *a oultrance* = exceedingly.
- p. 142, l. 7. "esmaye you nothyng yet :"  
Fr. *ne vous esmâies encore.*
- p. 142, l. 12. "beurage :"  
Fr. *beuraige*, a draught.
- p. 142, l. 30. "For they sawe parte of the walles, &c. :"  
Fr. *car ilz veoient a terre ruer les murailles principales du chateau.*



- p. 143, l. 25. "be ye . . ne wroth ayenst Mahon:" in the *Sowdone* Balan smashes Mahound.
- p. 144, l. 15. "the frenshe men purpose to dystrouble vs at our souper:" Fr. *les francoys nous veulent faire refrodier notre soupper* = wish to make our supper cold.
- p. 145, l. 1. "wherfor of veray force the other paynyns must retorne:" Fr. *pourquoy force fut aux aultres*, &c.
- p. 145, l. 25. "sythe he is a man of auctoryte:" Fr. *puis quil est homme de audience*.
- p. 147, l. 5. "abandonned hym self to goo:" offered himself, volunteered.
- p. 147, l. 26. "greued in hys persone:" wounded. Fr. *greue de sa personne*.
- p. 149, l. 5. "on a day emonge al other:" Fr. *ung iour entre les aultres*.
- p. 149, l. 17. "at al aduenture:" Fr. *a son aduenture*.
- p. 149, l. 28. "he doubted entyerly:" Fr. *il doubta entierement* = feared greatly, or in his heart. See *Glossary*.
- p. 151, l. 6. "dropped:" Fr. *platz* = broad.
- p. 152, l. 6. "attayned ouerthwart the necke:" Fr. *l'attaint du trauers du col*.
- p. 154, l. 4. "of thy partye:" = so far as thou art concerned. Fr. *de ta part*.
- p. 154, l. 13. Fr. *Et quant l'admiral les vit venir tout ethroclite en son entendement*. I can make nothing of "the ethroclites."
- p. 155, l. 8. "Orages:" in *Sir Ferumbras*, 3823, Malyngbras; in the *Sowdone*, 2145, Espyard.
- p. 155, l. 29. "To whom there is none like or equal in goodness in the world:" Fr. *quil non y a point de pareil*.
- p. 158, l. 2. "in comyng, &c.:" as we should now see, *en passant*, or by the way. Fr. *en venant vous debuez scauoir*.
- p. 158, l. 5. The miracle of the water rising to a level with the banks, and afterwards subsiding, is not given in the English metrical versions of the romance. See Dr. Hausknecht's note to the *Sowdone*, l. 2810.
- p. 159, l. 10. "dantesuyle." In the original French, *dautefeuille*, evidently misread by Caxton.
- p. 161, l. 1. "how am I determyned:" Fr. *comme suis ie determiné*.
- p. 161, l. 29. "as a thief attaynt:" Fr. *comme larron prouue*.
- p. 163, l. 12. "deffende:" forbid. Fr. *ne plaise pas a dieu que iamais*.
- p. 165, l. 31. "wyth motye:" Fr. *a ce mouuement vous viendrez*.
- p. 167, l. 14. "reclame me recreaunte, &c.:" Fr. *reclame recreant et tenu reboute*.
- p. 169, l. 3. "bowed his hede:" Fr. *baissa le menton*.
- p. 169, l. 28. "of an olde Serpente, &c.:" Fr. *dung viel serpent crote et moult endurcy*.
- p. 170, l. 27. "confanon:" so in the original French.

- p. 171, l. 27. "she was departed fro her gesyne, &c.:" Fr. *qui auoit faicte sa gessine de deux filz*, that is, who had given birth to two sons.
- p. 172, l. 11. "facyon:" = state of affairs.
- p. 175, l. 24. "Thus doyingt:" = while this was happening.
- p. 175, l. 32. "Amyotte." Amyote, *Sir Ferumbras*, 4663; Barrok, in the *Sowdone*, 2939.
- p. 177, l. 10. In the *Sowdone*, 3043, Richard is left as governor of Mantrible.
- p. 177, l. 35. "he swowned, &c.:" Fr. *il pasma de dueil et cria comme tout hors du sens*.
- p. 178, l. 11. "wel abused:" Fr. *bien abusez* = greatly deceived or mistaken. This is almost the oldest use of the word. "*Abuser*. To abuse, misuse . . . deceive, disappoint, gull, cozen, beguile. *Sabuser*. To mistake, to be in error; to wronge himselfe, &c." Cotgrave.
- p. 179, l. 7. "the olde kyngt Coldroe tempested hym." Here Caxton has made a most curious mistake. The original runs: *et avec luy le viel roy Coldroe, tempeste, et brullant de mommiere: tempeste* being really the name of one of the Saracen kings, and not a verb.
- p. 183, l. 5. "better aduysed:" Fr. *quil soit desensle(?)*.
- p. 183, l. 32. "byhelde:" Fr. *regarderent*. See note to p. 102, l. 6.
- p. 184, l. 13. "Duc Naymes." In the *Sowdone* Floripas first sees the French army advancing.
- p. 187, l. 1. "in the tree of the crosse:" Fr. *en larbre*.
- p. 187, l. 14. "he was almoost in a rage of hys wordes:" Fr. *a peu de fait quil ne fut enraige de ses parolles*.
- p. 187, l. 33. "by presumyngt:" Fr. *par presumacion* = by supposition.
- p. 190, l. 2. "wythoute faulte:" Fr. *sans faulte* = without fail.
- p. 193, l. 29. "helde them soo short, &c.:" Fr. *et les tindrent si de prez quelz ne sceurent que faire*.
- p. 195, l. 11. "a grete abusyon:" Fr. *grant abusyon*.
- p. 201, l. 7. "that there was non abusyon, &c.:" Fr. *quil ny auoit point dabusyon en croire et adorer les distes reliques*.
- p. 202, l. 22. "al rauysshed:" Fr. *tout rauy*.
- p. 204, l. 7. "ouerthrew to the erthe:" Fr. *vont tomber par terre*.
- p. 208, l. 18. "he founded, rented, and releued many and dyuers chyrches:" Fr. *il fonda, renta, et releua plusieurs et diuerses eglises*.
- p. 209, l. 4. See Dr. Hausknecht's note to the *Sowdon*, l. 1888.
- p. 209, l. 23. "he wold not leue herby:" would not stop at this. Fr. *ne se vouldt tenir a cecy*.
- p. 209, l. 27. "maad certeyn experyences:" Fr. *fist aulcunes experimentacions*.
- p. 213, l. 5. "took hede:" Fr. *sen prist garde* = took notice.
- p. 214, l. 31. Fr. *eulx qui estoient presens et leurs successeurs fussent francs et liberez, les taillables fussent a leurs drois comme quilz fussent condicionez*.

- p. 215, l. 35. "felow:" Fr. *compaignon de escoc*.
- p. 217, l. 13. "wythoute makynge grete rebellyon:" without showing any great fight. Fr. *sans faire grandes rebellions*.
- p. 221, l. 17. "demaunded synguler persone ayenst a persone:" Fr. *demanda a Charles bataille singuliere de personne a personne*.
- p. 222, l. 17. "soo vylaynsly:" Fr. *si villement*.
- p. 231, l. 1. "surprised:" overcome, taken. Fr. *surpris*.
- p. 237, l. 1. "dystourned:" turned him away, dissuaded him. Fr. *le destourba*.
- p. 237, l. 21. "lepte:" corrected on the authority of the original French, which reads *monta*.
- p. 242, l. 6. "to-faished and broken:" Fr. *il estoit naure, casse, et tout rompu*.
- p. 251, l. 27. "daubeny." See *Introduction*, p. 7.





## G L O S S A R Y.

Abuse, *s.* 60/30, deceit, error.  
 Abuse, *v.* 206/19, deceive.  
 Abylled, *pt. s.* 80/11, dressed, prepared.  
 Accomplysshe, *v.* 125/34, complete, finish.  
 Accumyled, *pa. par.* 198/167, accumulated, grown long and thick.  
 Acoward, *v.* 173/15, show to be a coward, prove oneself a coward.  
 Adioust, *v.* 39/9, to add, append.  
 Adoubed, *pa. par.* 95/22, arrayed, dressed; 55/5, dubbed.  
 Affectuously, *adv.* 13/12, affectionately, with affection.  
 Alowed, *pa. par.* 49/20, praised.  
 Ampull, *s.* 20/31, a flask, a bottle, a jar.  
 And, *conj.* 101/15, if.  
 Anenst, *prep.* 246/29, towards, as regards.  
 Appeled, *pt. s.* 242/26, accused, challenged, charged with.  
 Araught, *pt. s.* 76/28, reached to, touched.  
 Arbalastre, *s.* 104/12, a cross-bow.  
 Aresonne, *pa. par.* 52/20, questioned.  
 Attayned, *pt. s.* 190/19, reached, struck.  
 Attones, *adv.* 56/14, at once, at the same time.  
 Aualed, *pt. s.* 158/16, sank down, was lowered; 104/34, let down, lowered.  
 Bacynet, *s.* 32/15, a small helmet.

Barat, *s.* 231/35, fraud, deceit.  
 Baston, *s.* 182/4, a staff.  
 Batayl, *s.* 232/35, a battalion. a division of an army.  
 Bayned, *pa. par.* 89/20, bathed, plunged.  
 Baynes, *s. pl.* 95/20, baths.  
 Becke, *s.* 20/30, a beak, bill.  
 Behoeful, *v.* 145/25, advisable, advantageous.  
 Belfraye, *s.* 175/7, a tower. See *Cath. Anglicum*, *s. v.* Barsepay.  
 Blynfelde, *pt. pl.* 82/1, blindfolded. See *Cath. Anglicum*, *s. v.* Blyndfeyld.  
 Bowedraugt, *s.* 189/31, a bowshot.  
 Boystous, *a.* 29/26, large, big; 16/22, rough, violent.  
 Broched, *pt. s.* 101/35, spurred.  
 Buscage, *s.* 33/19, a wood. O.Fr. *boscage*.  
 Camuse, *a.* 94/27, short, thick-nosed.  
 Chauffer, *pa. par.* 95/20, warmed, heated.  
 Complices, *s. pl.* 164/33, accomplices.  
 Confanon, *s.* 170/27. For gonfanon = a standard.  
 Confysked, *pa. par.* 24/34, confiscated.  
 Conuenably, *adv.* 19/32, suitably, fittingly.  
 Corobere, *v.* 24/9, to strengthen.  
 Crapauld, *s.* 79/20, a toad.

- Cremeur, *s.* 46/19, dread.  
 "Cremeur, feare, dread." —  
 Cotgrave.
- Cresme, *s.* 20/32: The chrism or  
 holy oil with which kings were  
 anointed at their consecration.  
 See *Cath. Anglicum*, *s. v.* Creme.
- Dedyed, *pa. par.* 16/35, dedicated.
- Delyuer, *a.* 80/33, active, nimble.  
 Hence the modern *clever*.
- Depesshe, *v. imp.* 53/9, hasten,  
 hurry.
- Derked, *pt. s.* 211/12, was eclipsed.
- Descerked, *pt. s.* 102/7, cut off the  
 circle or ring round the helmet.
- Descouerd, *pa. par.* 75/26, un-  
 covered, deprived.
- Desmaylled, *pa. par.* 69/10, de-  
 prived of the mails or plates.
- Disreng, *v.* 226/19, to be thrown  
 in disorder.
- Dyshoneste, *s.* 91/31, filth, nasti-  
 ness.
- Dyssymyled, *pa. par.* 13/22, dis-  
 guised.
- Dystourned, *pt. s.* 237/1, turned  
 aside.
- Dystrouble, *v.* 151/27, trouble, dis-  
 turb, interfere with.
- Egal, *s.* 59/2, equal, match.
- Empessed, *pa. par.* 219/14, hin-  
 dered, obstructed.
- Enforced, *pt. s.* 78/16, exerted.
- Engyne, *s.* 165/21, craft, art, skill.
- Enhardyed, *pt. pl.* 192/22, encour-  
 aged, took courage.
- Ensyewyng, *v.* 250/24, following.
- Enterbraced, *pt. pl.* 113/25, em-  
 braced.
- Enterprenour, *s.* 166/10, enterpriser,  
 actor.
- Entretene, *v.* 46/32, to treat, behave  
 towards.
- Entyer, *a.* 237/32, earnest, hearty.
- Entyered, *pa. par.* 244/27, interred.
- Entyerly, *adv.* 149/28, earnestly,  
 very greatly. "Entyrlly: *in-*  
*time*."—*Cathol. Anglicum*.
- Escrye, *v.* 77/27, to call upon,  
 invoke.
- Faus, *a.* 79/18. See note.
- Faysyble, *a.* 49/34, possible to be  
 done, feasible.
- Felounye, *s.* 109/30, daring, reck-  
 lessness.
- Fere, *v.* 140/5, to frighten.
- Ferfully, *adv.* 193/32, in fear,  
 timidly.
- Fette, *pt. s.* 223/26, fetched.
- Fliese, *s.* 91/1, a fleece.
- Florysshe, *v.* 36/3, to bud, flower.
- Florysshed, *pa. par.* 108/23, flow-  
 ing, long and wide.
- Formosyte, *s.* 198/10, beauty.
- Frequented, *pt. s.* 29/12, made  
 frequent use of.
- Geayler, *s.* 89/1, jailer.
- Glaues, *sb. pl.* 81/27, glaives:  
 weapons made of a cutting blade  
 fixed at the end of a staff.
- Gree, *s.* 96/10, pleasure, delight.
- Greued, *pa. par.* 147/26, hurt, in-  
 jured.
- Guarysshed, *pa. par.* 17/16, cured,  
 healed.
- Habylle, *a.* 169/32, active, nimble.
- Harnoyes, *s.* 105/34, equipments,  
 outfit.
- Houyng, *pr. par.* 36/16, hovering.
- Iape, *v.* 60/22, play, mock.
- Ionques, *s. pl.* 200/1, rushes. See  
*Cath. Anglicum*, *s. v.* Ionkett.
- Iourneye, *s.* 216/9, a day's journey.
- Lawhe, *v.* 53/12, to laugh.
- Lawhyng, *a.* 90/15, laughing.
- Lesynges, *s. pl.* 106/8, lies.
- Leteth, *pr. s.* 212/24, causes.  
*Leteth the wete* = tells you, sends  
 notice to you.
- Lette, *pa. par.* 219/14, obstructed,  
 hindered.

- Loange, *s.* 25/32, praise, worship, reverence. O.Fr. *louange*.
- Lodgyce, *s.* 49/22, lodgings, tent. Fr. *logis*.
- Loos, *s.* 85/5, glory, praise.
- Lyces, *s. pl.* 40/25. Lists or a tilt-yard (*Cotgrave*) here used for the lines of the camp.
- Lygnage, *s.* 192/33, clan, party.
- Maistresse, *s.* 94/19, governess.
- Matte, *a.* 74/12, conquered, thoroughly beaten. See glossary to *Sir Ferumbras*.
- Maulgre, *prep.* 234/26, in spite of.
- Meddle, *v.* 92/35, engage, contend.
- Medled, *pa. par.* 198/14, mixed, intermingled.
- Mesprysed, *pa. par.* 251/12, made a mistake, erred; 52/6, done wrong, injured.
- Mosel, *s.* 151/10, a muzzle.
- Moyen, *s.* 213/33, a means, a plan.
- Murayl, *s.* 203/25, walls, fortifications.
- Muse, *v.* 119/9, to be confounded.
- Ouerall, *adv.* 30/12, everywhere.  
"Ouer alle; *passim*, *vbiunque*, *genus loquendi est vbiue*."—*Cath. Anglicum*.
- Ouerthrowe, *pt. s.* 141/18, fell over.
- Parents, *s. pl.* 160/3, relations.
- Pourchace, *v.* 32/6, provide, contrive. See note to *Sir Ferumbras*, 2603.
- Prestly, *adv.* 94/35, readily, quickly.
- Priued, *pa. par.* 215/14, withdrawn, estranged.
- Purchaced, *pa. par.* 131/8, obtained, procured.
- Putayne, *s.* 180/1, a harlot.
- Puterye, *s.* 181/35, harlotry. Fr. *puterie*.
- Pynapple, *s.* 80/22, a fir. See note.
- Raught, *pt. s.* 81/18, reached to, touched.
- Reioye, *v.* 64/32, renew.
- Releued, *pt. s.* 130/24, lifted up, raised.
- Remysed, *pt. s.* 208/28, placed again, brought back.
- Rented, *pt. s.* 206/18, endowed.
- Repayre, *s.* 129/13, retreat, return.
- Rescowed, *pa. par.* 72/35, rescued.
- Retcheth, 3 *pr. s.* 22/3, cares, recks.
- Ryuage, *s.* 158/3, shore, bank.
- Salewed, *pt. s.* 49/23, saluted, made obeisance to.
- Setted, *pt. s.* 52/22, set, thought.
- Share, *pt. s.* 76/28, cut.
- Sommyers, *s. pl.* 105/23, pack-horses.
- Soulded, *pa. par.* 103/33, soldered, fastened, jointed.
- Sperhawke, *s.* 193/32, a sparrow-hawk.
- Stratchedden, *pt. pl.* 236/31, were stretched or strained.
- Sudarye, *s.* 37/14, a handkerchief: commonly applied to the napkin which wrapped about our Lord's head. See *Cath Anglicum*, *s. v.* and note.
- Surquydrous, *a.* 74/10, proud, haughty.
- Swolowe, *s.* 205/32, a whirlpool or quicksand. See *Cath. Anglicum*, *s. v.* a Swalle of y° See.
- Symylacres, *s. pl.* 206/11, images.
- Syeges, *s. pl.* 229/5, seats, places.
- Tabellyons, *s. pl.* 214/32. See note.
- Tabouryns, *s. pl.* 22/27, tabourers.
- Thwarte, *prep.* 44/6, across.
- To-frusshed, *pa. par.* 75/20, broken to pieces.
- Trauaylled, *pa. par.* 103/7, worn out with labour.
- Tronchoned, *pa. par.* 63/1, broken to pieces.
- Truffed, *pt. s.* 119/15, played, mocked.

Tyerce, <i>s.</i> 232/23, terce, or the third of the canonical hours.	Wende, <i>pt.</i> <i>s.</i> 36/13, thought, intended.
Underset, <i>pa. par.</i> 249/7, propped up, supported.	Wesshe, <i>pt.</i> <i>s.</i> 66/21, washed.
Vnnethe, <i>adv.</i> 31/6, scarcely, with difficulty.	Wynbrowes, <i>s. pl.</i> 26/33, eyebrows. Evidently a corruption of <i>eyebrowes</i> .
Vylaynsly, <i>adv.</i> 222/17, shamefully, disgracefully.	Ymbre, <i>s.</i> 37/35, ember.













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